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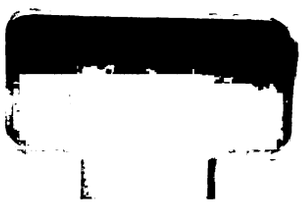

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PREFATORY NOTE.

The following pages contain the Diary and Proceedings for 1756 of the Select Committee for transacting country affairs at Fort St. George. The original manuscript is contained in two volumes, viz., the fifth and sixth volumes of the series known as the Military Consultations of Fort St. George. It is in a fair state of preservation, but the paper is brittle and the edges broken in places. Missing words which have been conjecturally supplied are enclosed in square brackets. In this volume also evidences of careless copying are very apparent, and the transcript of French manuscript is extraordinarily bad.

2. The main events of the year fall into three series, of which the most important is that which resulted from the capture of Calcutta by Siraj-ud-daula. It must be noted however that many papers relating to Bengal affairs were not entered in the Military, but in the Public Consultations. However, as Mr. S. C. Hill has already printed all the essential documents contained in the Madras Records in his "Bengal in 1756–57" (*Indian Records Series*, 3 volumes), this omission is of the less consequence.

3. The second main series consists of our relations with the French. Here again important papers occur elsewhere. The French correspondence (frequently alluded to in the present volume) will be published in due course, as will also be the Secret Consultations relating to the projected operations, in concert with the Marathas, against Bussy in the Deccan.

4. Finally there are the operations in Madura and Tinnevelly, which elicited loud protests from de Leyrit and the Pondichery Council as infringements of the Truce agreed on in 1754. These are dealt with in full detail in the present volume.

H. Dodwell
Curator, Madras Record Office.

11th November 1913.

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RECORDS OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

DIARY AND CONSULTATION BOOK

OF

1756.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

Diary and Proceedings of the Select Committee for Transacting Country Affairs. Fort St. George Anno 1756.

——FORT S$^{T.}$ GEORGE, JANUARY 1756.——

JANUARY 1ST.

Receiv'd the following Letter from the President and Council of Bombay in answer to Ours of the 20th July and 10 Aug$^{t.}$ last.

To THE HONBLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQ$^{R.}$ PRESIDENT & GOVERNOR &C$^{A.}$
OF THE COMMITTEE FOR TRANSACTING COUNTRY & MILITARY AFFAIRS
AT FORT S$^{T.}$ GEORGE.

Honble Sir & Sirs

We have been favour'd with your Letters of the 20$^{th.}$ July & 10 August, also one from the Deputy Governor and Council at Fort S$^{t.}$ David with the Accounts of the Military return'd on the Protector, which we have the pleasure to advise your Honor &c$^{a.}$, arrived here the 12$^{th.}$ Instant in perfect health, thô had they not fortunately met with the Hardwicke Storeship near the Line on her return from Batavia, their Tedious Passage would have put them to some Streights for Water and Provisions.

We observe your Honor &c$^{a's}$ reasons for not allowing the Troops Batta, during their Stay on your Coast and shall not therefore pay them any thing on that account.

By our Advices to the President and Council your Honor &c^{a} will perceive his Majesty's Squadron and two of the Ships consign'd us from Europe imported about the 10th Instant, and as they parted with the Houghton and Edgecote off the Arabian Shore we impatiently wait their Arrival that we may have the Satisfaction

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[1st.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1756.*——

of acquainting your Honor &c[a]; the two Companies of his Majesty's Royal Regiment of Artillery embark'd on them, are landed in the same good Order as that, and our Hoñ'ble Masters Recruits by the above Ships, and we hope as the Dodington separated from them shortly after their Departure from St. Jago, your next will bring the welcome News of her having got well to your place.

Robert Clive Esq[r], who has the King's Commission as Lieutenant Colonel and is appointed by the Honorable Company, Deputy Governor of Fort St. David, and to Succeed M[r] Pigot in your Government, took his passage and arrived here on the Stretham. We are Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obedient Servants

R[d] Bourchier.
Cha. Crommelin.
James Foulis.
W. Sedgwicke.
H. Symmons.
J. Byfeld.
W. Hornby
W. A. Price.
J. Spencer.

Bombay Castle
27th November 1755.

At a Committee

Present

Friday 2nd

George Pigot Esq[r] Governor, President
Stringer Lawrence — Henry Powney
Robert Orme — Alexander Wynch
... — Robert Palk.
Mr. Perceval *absent on Service.*

The following Letters receiv'd since last meeting read
One from Major James Kilpatrick.

[T]he Honorable George Pigot Esq[r] [Pres]ident & Governor and the Gentlemen [of] the Committee of Correspondence at Fort St. George.

Honble Sir & Sirs

I am honor'd with your Letter of the 18th Inst[t] and agreable to your desire, have made what enquiries I could with respect to the strength of the Pollygar of Ellavanasoor, the Person I had the Information from, was Jemedar of Hor[se] in his Service, and left it about two months and a half ago, He is recommended to me by the Nabob as a Man of Veracity and whose word can be depended on.

He informs me as follows, Viz[t] that there are in his Service 500 Seapoys of his own armed with Firelocks. 500 more he has hired who have also Firelocks and 200 Horse, that his Fort or Pagoda is a Square flank'd b[y] Bastion on each Angle with Embrasures, that he has thrown up two small Breast works on the Top of the Pagoda fronting towards the North, He has two Guns mounted on Carriages but not fix'd at present on any particular part of the Fort, the one about a Nine and the other a Six pounder, the Wa[lls] of the Pagoda are Brick, and at the bottom 2 Yards thick there is a dry Ditch four foot deep, and only one entran[ce] into the Fort, which is by a small gate in the North fro[nt] they have two wells with water in the place but neither [of] them very good. their chief dependence being on a Tank without, He adds they were making preparations for a Defence by fixing Palisadoes and Trees

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1756.*— —— [2ND.]

across and throw[ing]up Mudworks without, he imagines that 200 Europea[ns] 1200 Seapoys an 18 and 12 Pounder with 150 roun[ds of] Ammunition for each will be sufficient to reduce it. Th[e] Nabob is of the same Opinion, and for further certai[nty] I have this day dispatch'd a Person I have an Opin[ion] of to give me further Intelligence about it and the Roa[ds] which I shall transmit to you on his return.

The Nabob assures me there are no kind [of] Stores or Ammunition at Poonamalee for the great Gun[s] to be used on this Occasion; by the above Person's accou[nt] the Place is Situated distant from Arcot SSW. 36 Corse from Fort St. David W. 24 Corse and Trinomily S.S. [W.], 16 Corse, all the roads tolerably good from which you [will] be best able to judge the most convenient place to tra[nsport] the heavy Cannon from. I am inclin'd to believe Fort St. David will be the best.

The Nabob thought it for his Interest that the Army should move a little nearer Bommerauze's Fort, accordingly on the 20th Instant, we march'd about 5 Miles which I hope will have the desir'd Effect. I am with the greatest Respect Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obedient & most humble Servant

JAMES KILPATRICK.

Camp at [Ca]mmaulin Setterum
[2]2d. December 1755.

As Major Kilpatrick is in Expectation of further Advices regarding the Strength of the Fort of Ellavanasoor, and from a Person he can Depend on, it is Agreed in order to prevent Delays to leave it to him to Settle with the Nabob a Plan for the Reduction of that Fort, and proceed on the Execution of it or detach such a Party as he shall judge necessary, without further Orders.

And in case heavy Cannon should be requir'd it is Agreed to send two Eighteen Pounders from hence to join the Army at Arcot and be transported from thence to Ellavanasore; in hopes that the March of Heavy Cannon to Arcot may strike a fear into Murtaz ally Cawn the Killedar of Veloor and bring him to good Terms with the Nabob.

Order'd that two Eighteen Pounders be accordingly held in readiness and that Major Kilpatrick be desir'd to send in a sufficient number of Bullocks, Cooley &c^a. for the Carriage of the Guns, Shott and other Appurtenances with a proper Escort.

Two Letters from William Perceval Esqr.

To THE HONORABLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQ^R.
&C^A. GENTLEMEN OF THE COMMITTEE.

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your favour of the 18th Instant came to hand yesterday; In the Evening I communicated to the Na[bob] such parts of it as related [to] his Affairs; He was well pleased with your Intention of sending part of the Army [to] Elavanasoor, but express'd great surprize at your Resolution of quartering the rest of the Army at Arcot, in order to save a little Batta; It would spoil, to use his own words all Business; The Valoor Killedar Murtaz ally Cawn would not be fear'd, come into the Agreement he proposed if the English went into quarters. In my Letter of the 11th I ga[ve] you what I thought sufficient Reasons for keeping the Fie[ld] however as you are pleased to think otherwise, on our Arri[val] at Arcot the Army shall go into Quarters, tho I fear t[he] Nabob's and Company's Affairs will suffer by it.

Bommerauze, as the Nabob says is a very great Rogue, he put us off from day to day so lon[g] that the 20th the Nabob thought proper to march the Army round the hills to the westward of Trechany Pagoda. Yesterday his Vackeel came to

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[2ND.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1756.*——

Camp and brought Bills for Sixty five thousand Rupees, payable by one of their own Merchants ; and one of our Madras Shroffs set out for Bommerauze's Fort this morning to get good Security for Forty five thousand more, for which he will then give Bills ; The Nabob hopes the Bills for the Sixty five thousand Rupees are good, tho he owns he does not altogether like the Security, but finds himself unable to get better.

The several Regulations you have been pleased to make shall be duely complied with, and the Sepoys entertain'd here shall be discharged at the end of the Month ; Major Kilpatrick hopes you will fill up the Establishment from the other Settlements when you think it necessary. Tho the Train Officer and Quarter Master were paid the Batta agreable to the Abstract deliver'd in by them, I must observe to you that the People under their Charge were regularly muster'd once a Month by me, as appears by the Monthly Muster Rolls sent you, as they were also on their pay days, and the Commanding Officer well knows that these People are absolutely necessary for the Service ; however all Disbursements in future shall be made immediately by me as Paymaster or your Commissary (Since you have been pleased to appoint another) tho I understood when I left Madras I was intended both Paymaster and Commissary.

As you have thought proper to put the Bullocks on a new Regulation, the Directions of the Commi[ssary] General shall be duely follow'd in regard to them.

The Nabob and Major Kilpatrick will m[ake] strict Enquiry into the Nature and Situation of [the] Fort of Ellavanasoor, the Roads to it and its distance from Trino[my] and transmit the same to you.

If shortly after the Arrival of the Army at Arcot, I should find no probability of the Nabob's coming [to an] amicable Agreement with Murtaz ally Cawn, I beg I [may] in that case have leave to return to Madras, as the Intenti[on of] my Commission, (that of receiving money for the Company) will then be at an End. I am

Honorable Sir & Si[rs]
Your most Obedient humble Servant

WILLM. PERCEVAL.

Camp to the Wt. ward.
of Trechany Pagoda 22nd.
December 1755.

TO THE HONORABLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQR.

Honble Sir

This is to acquaint you the Nabob this Day settled his Affairs with Bommerauze, I have received for the Company's Account a Bill for Polliput Pagodas Sixteen thousand one hundred & Sixty Six two thirds (16,166 2/3) payable at Arcot within ten days, I have also Bommerauze's Note or Cad[jan] for Polliput Pagodas twenty three thousand, three hundred thi[rty] three & a third (23,333 1/3) payable in three Months on thr[ee] Monthly Payments, these you will be paid I am told in Rupee [s] at $2\frac{3}{4}$ or 2 7/8 ℔ Pagoda ; I shall send you the particula[rs] when we arrive at Arcot, we shall set out for that place early to morrow morning ; I am with much Truth

Honble Sir
Your most Obedient humble
Servant

WILLM. PERCEVAL.

Camp near Trechany
28th December 1755.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1756.*—— [2nd]

It is with pleasure the Committee observe from Mr. Perceval's Letter to the President that the Nabob has at last Settled with Bommerauze. Agreed to acquaint Mr. Perceval with our foregoing Resolution on the Subject of Ellavanasour and to desire him to give it out that our Design is against Veloor in order to raise fears in the Killedar Murtaz ally Cawn and to advise the Nabob, in case this has the desired Effect to take advantage of these fears and settle with the Killedar on the best Terms he can.

And as Mr. Perceval desires he may have leave to return to Madras in case there is no appearance of the Nabobs settling with Murtaz ally Cawn soon after his Arrival at Arcot, it is Agreed to write him that we only desire he will Stay in case he should find that Business likely to be soon finish'd; otherwise he may return whenever he thinks proper.

Major Kilpatrick having represented by the means of Mr. Maunsell Commissary in Camp that although we have objected to Captain Lee's Receipt of Batta as Captain and Secretary untill the 30th November, the day he took the Field, yet he (Major Kilpatrick) hopes he may have liberty to draw for the Batta of a Secretary from the time he had the Command of the Army; Agreed to write Mr. Perceval that we have no Objection to Major Kilpatrick's drawing for the Batta of a Secretary, it having been always allowed and that our Surprize was occasion'd entirely by it's being charged in the name of Captain Lee who was all that time at Madras.

Letters from Captain Maskelyne and Captain Polier commanding at Arcot and Changleput Read acknowledging the Receipt of our Orders for transmitting Estimates of all the Repairs that may be necessary to the Fortifications before they begin upon any work, and representing their fears that the Estimates they may make in consequence will be often fallacious.

Agreed that Mr. Engineer Call who came up lately from Fort St. David do take Changleput in his way back, and transmit us an account of the Repairs absolutely necessary to be made there, with an Estimate of their Expence.

And that Captains Maskelyne & Polier be wrote that they are hereafter to get what helps they can from the Master Bricklayers and Carpenters, and make their Estimates as correct as possible.

GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
A. WYNCH.
ROB. PALK.

Sent the following Letters to William Perceval Esqr., and Major James Kilpatrick pursuant to yesterday's Resolutions.

To WILLIAM PERCEVAL ESQR.

Sir

We have receiv'd your Letter of the 22d December and the President has communicated to us your Letter to him of the 28 of the same Month.

As Major Kilpatrick is in expectation of further Intelligence regarding Ellavanasore from a Person he has sent on purpose, we have thought it best in order to prevent Delays to leave it to the Nabob and him to carry our Design of attacking that place into Execution in what manner they shall judge best and Detach such a part of the Army as they shall think necessary. Major Kilpatrick writes us that by the Accounts he has receiv'd of that Fort it will be necessary to have two heavy Cannon and recommends their being sent from St. David, but we have rather chose to order them out from Madras to join the Army at Arcot and be transported from thence to Ellavanasour, imagining that the News of their March may have a good Effect on Murtaz ally Cawn. We have wrote Major Kilpatrick to send in Lascars,

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[2nd.] —— *FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1756.* ——

Bullocks and every thing necessary for the Carriage of the Guns Ammunition &c^a. you may give out that they are design'd for the Attack of Veloor and if the rumour should raise any fears in the Killedar, advise the Nabob to take Advantage of them and settle in the best terms he can.

We have no objection to Major Kilpatrick's drawing for the Batta of a Secretary from the time of his taking the field, our Surprize was occasion'd by it's being charg'd in the Name of Captain Lee who was all that time at Madras.

We know not how you came to think of our having appointed a new Commissary. If you will turn to your Instructions you will find that M^r. Maunsel was appointed from the beginning and so he remains; you will find also in the same Instructions that we look upon you in a much higher Light calling you Director of the Commissary's Disbursements of every kind.

If you should see any probability of the Nabob's Settling with Murtaz ally Cawn soon after your arrival at Arcot we doubt not but you will readily stay to accomplish that Business. If you should not find this likely we have no objection to your returning to Madras whenever you think proper; We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants GEORGE PIGOT—STRINGER LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY.— ROB^T. ORME— ALEX^R. WYNCH—ROB^T. PALK.

Fort St. George
3rd. January 1756.

TO MAJOR JAMES KILPATRICK.

Sir

We have receiv'd your Letter of the 22^d. Decem^r. and as we imagine you will by the time this reaches you have receiv'd more certain Intelligence of the Strength of the Fort of Ellavanasour, we leave it to you to consult with the Nabob, Settle the Plan for the execution of his Designs, and detach such part of the Army as you shall judge necessary for the Success of the Expedition when you see proper, if you find by your Intelligence that heavy Cannon will be requisite we shall send them to you from hence in the hopes that their March from Madras to Arcot may raise fears in the Killedar Murtaz ally Cawn and bring him to better Terms. We have therefore got two Eighteen Pounders ready and you will please to Send in the Lascars Bullocks & every thing necessary for transporting the Guns, their Ammunition &c^a. with a proper Escort endeavouring to make it believ'd that they are intended for the attack of Veloor. We are Sir Your most Obed^t. Servants

Fort S^t. George
3^d. January 1756.

GEORGE PIGOT &c^a., COMMITTEE.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

WEDNESDAY THE 7TH.

GEORGE PIGOT ESQ^R. GOVERNOR PRESIDENT
STRINGER LAWRENCE — HENRY POWNEY
ROBERT ORME — ALEXANDER WYNCH
— — ROBERT PALK.
M^R. PERCEVAL *absent on Service.*

Receiv'd the following Letter from William Perceval Esqr. with Copy of Bommerauze's Account with the Nabob and his Obligation or Note to the Company.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1756.*—— [7th.]

Honorable Sir & Sirs

The Army arriv'd at this Place yesterday and in the Afternoon went into Quarters; we have reduced the Cooleys to one hundred and fifty and taken off all Batta.

I now enclose you Copies of Bommerauze's Account Current with the Nabob and of the Cadjan I have receiv'd for Seventy thousand Rupees, the Nabob having received the like. I must observe to you this Money is doubtfull, however I hope you will be able to recover it.

The Nabob has been so taken up with the Wedding of his Daughter, that we have not yet enter'd upon Murtaz ally Cawn's Affair. If you were to send some trifling Presents upon occasion of this Wedding I have been told it would be very acceptable, not Broad Cloth, Velvets nor fire arms but something else of Curiosity. I am

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

Arcot 1st. Jany 1756. Your most Obedient humble Servant

WILLM. PERCEVAL.

To the Hoñble George Pigot EsqR.
&cA. Gentlemen of the Committee.

Translation of Bommerauze's Agreement with the English Company Dated 28th. December 1755.

By Order of the Nabob Annaverde Cawn Bahaudar in part of the Money agreed or settled by him for two years I promise to pay to the English Company the Sum of Seventy thousand Rupees at three Rupees ℔ Polliput Pagoda being Pagodas twenty three thousand three hundred thirty three one third in three Months at three Payments from the 7th. December to the 7th. of Janry one Payment Pags. 7,800 the second the 7th. Febry Pagos. 7,800 & the 9th. March the Remainder being Pags. 7,733 1/3 & to take Receipts accordingly. This given by my own Accord.

in the name of Bommerauze.

Dr. ..... Bommerauze in Account with Nabob Anneverdy Cawn Cr.

To two Years Tribute.	83,000	By Elephants, Horses, Jewels, Sirpahs, Vackeels &cs. allowed for two Years.		12,000
To do. do. Presents.	40,000	By Durbar Expences		21,000
To Durbar Expences.	21,000	By Cash, ready Money vizt.		
To Presents or Gifts to the Nabob.	126,000	To the Nabob ... Poliput Pagodas...	16,166 2/3	
		To the English Company...	16,166 2/3	
			32,333 1/3	
		at 3 Rupees ℔r Poliput Pagoda is		97,000
		By Bommerauze's Cadjans for the following Sums payable in three Months vizt.		
		To the Nabob for Rupees...	70,000	
		To the English Company...	70,000	
				140,000
Rupees ...	270,000	Rupees ...		270,000

N.B.—Tho these Polyput Pagodas are valued in the Account of Rupees 3 ea yet the Exchange when paid is at 2¾ or 2 7/8 only and at that rate we must receive them.

Camp near Tritany.
28th. December 1755.

The first payment from Bommerauze of Polliput Pagodas Seven thousand, Eight hundred (7,800) being due this day the President is desir'd to write to him

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[7TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1756.*——

for the Money and it is Agreed to inclose the Letter to Mr. Perceval that he may forward it at the same time as he demands Payment which may perhaps be a means of securing it.

Letter from Major James Kilpatrick

To the Honble George Pigot Esqr. President & Governor &cA.
Gentlemen of the Committee of Correspondence.

Honble Sir & Sirs

As Mr. Perceval wrote to you on the 28th Ultimo that the Nabob had finish'd with Bommerauze, and the Purport of that Agreement I thought it unnecessary to send any other Account as I refer you to his Letter for Particulars.

On the 29th. we march'd from Cammaulin Setterum, and Quarter'd the Army in Arcot the 31st., when agreable to your Instructions I gave it out in Orders that the Allowance of Batta should cease from that day.

We have advice that 400 French, 4 Guns and 10 or 12 Companies of Seapoys are at Valdore, but cannot learn for certain what their Intentions are.

Captain Innis and Lieutenant Godwin have join'd the Army, I have given Lieutenant Brooks leave to go to Madras on his private Business. Enclosed are the Returns of the Army Stores &cA. I am with great Respect Honble Sir & Sirs Your most Obedt. & most hble Servant.

Arcot
2nd Jany 1756. James Kilpatrick.

The Committee approve of the Measures taken by Major Kilpatrick to reduce the Expences on the Arrival of the Army at Arcot.

The Storekeeper lays before the Committee an Indent for Stores for the Service of the Camp, Sign'd by Lieutenant Rumbold as Quartermaster and undersign'd by Major Kilpatrick. Order'd that it be complied with, but the Demand for some of the Articles appearing extraordinary it is Agreed to point them out to Major Kilpatrick, and to desire him to enjoin the Quarter Masters to be very careful that no Stores be wasted or misapplied; also that in future all Indents be transmitted directly to us.

The following Letter from Mr. Andrew Newton read.

To the Honorable George Pigot Esqr.

Honble Sir,

I was some days since favour'd with your Letter of the 13th. Instant which implies a former one being sent in answer to two of mine dated the 27th and 28th Ultimo but which I have not had the honour to receive, In one sin[ce] dated the 10th Instant I acquainted you with the King's Troops being return'd, and of the King and Monogee's being much displeased; I did not then think they were so much so, as their behaviour since has shewn they are. On Monogee's return I immediately sent my Interpreter with Compliments to them both and that I would write to acquaint you of it, who I was sure would be pleased at the regard the King had paid to your advice, on his coming away from the King he was told that now Monogee was return'd he had no occasion to come there, but might apply to him with any thing I had to communicate, as I had before usually done so I did not at that time take any particular Notice of it. That night Monogee did not see my Servant on pretence of being fatigued with the March, and two or three times I sent him afterwards, making frivolous Excuses, I order'd him to be more pressing to know the reason of such unusual Behaviour. He then absolutely refused to see him, and sent word out he must not come there, that neither the King nor he had any friendship for or wanted any from the English. On receiving this Message I neither

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1756.*—— [7m.]

sent to nor heard any thing from them, till the day I receiv'd your Letter, when the King sent a Person who speaks English very well, to know if I had received any answers to the Letters I had wrote you. I answer'd I had and such as I did not doubt would please the King, but the extraordinary Message from Monogee had prevented my sending to them, that I was more at a loss to account for such Behaviour as they knew very well you would assist them in any thing that was just, at a proper time and if you did not chuse to continue their friend you would not suffer me to remain here, and to give them a hint of the contents of your Letter, I said that the King if he consider'd could not take any thing that had happen'd amiss, that the Truce was made with his consent, and that he knew Orders were sent to all our Troops to act against any that broke it (it could not be thought he would be the first) which must be obey'd 'till others were sent, which he knew very well were wrote for tho' he behaved in this manner before an Answer could arrive: and added I would wait on the King or Monogee when ever they pleased and acquaint them with the particulars of your Letter, I had lately received. In a day or two the King sent me word that if your Letter was such as would immediately give him possession of his Country he would be glad to see me if not there was no occasion and he must stay quiet; as to my being here I might either go or stay as you pleased, that what he had been about to do was no more a breach of the Truce than the French now taking Toriour, and several other things that had been done, and that his people all publickly complain'd of his being obliged by the English to recall his Troops without attempting to recover his right, after all the Service he had done us, and the friendship we had profess'd, I return'd answer only that he was a better judge than his People what was fit to be done; and that I would acquaint you with his Resolution of remaining quiet. I have since had two other Instances of their being much dissatisfied, and not willing to keep any measures.

I thought it of too little consequence to inform your honor the King made (as an excuse to send about the Letters) a Complaint of one of my Seapoys striking his Bullock Cooley, the fellow having drove his Bullocks to eat some grass that lay at my Door, the Seapoy called to him to drive them away, and on his giving a saucy Answer struck him, tho he did not in the least hurt him. As this was done without my knowledge and contrary to my Orders (never to strike any one) I sent handsome Excuses to the King with which by his Message afterwards he seem'd entirely satisfied. thô Monogee has wrote the enclosed Letter to Captn. Caillaud which I receiv'd this Evening. The other is my house being robb'd last night of most of my Cloths and other things of value, I sent to Monogee this morning to desire he would be so good as to order enquiry to be made after them. he not only refused seeing my Servant but would send no answer; and I have reason to think it has been done by (at least) their Connivance, as never any thing of that Sort has happen'd to me before except once by one of my own Servants and then every thing that it was possible was recover'd for me immediately. My Servant also was insulted particularly by one who was formerly the King's Vackeel at Madras who told him it was proper for me to take care the Colries did not take me away or at least give me a Stab. In the morning I shall send to the King about it and if I don't receive a more satisfactory Answer from him intend immediately going to Trichenopoly and there wait your Orders.

Monogee has within these few days past sent for the Vackeels of the Morravah and several other Pollygars made them presents, and sent Letters to their Masters the Contents of which I have not been able to hear anything of.

Notwithstanding the Success has been so indifferent, I hope my Conduct will be approved of by your Honour, which it will always be my utmost endeavours to deserve and to prove how respectively I am Hoñble Sir

Your most Obdt. & most humble Servant

Tanjour
30th Decemr. 1755.

ANDREW NEWTON.

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[7th.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1756.*——

As Mr. Newton's Stay at Tanjour can be of no Service while he is on so bad a footing with the King it is Agreed to order him to Deve Cotah.

And as the King of Tanjour in Spite of all the friendly Advice we have given him on the Subject of his Difference with Tondiman seems violently out of Temper at our not assisting him to recover the Countries he claims from that Pollygar, The Committee think it necessary to endeavour to check the growing Haughtiness of his Disposition, by representing to him in stronger Terms, that as he has agreed to a Truce he must comply with the Articles, that as by the Insults Mr. Newton has lately met with we judge that his Stay at Tanjour must be disagreable we have therefore sent for him away, that we take it ill that we have receiv'd no Answers to the several Letters we have lately wrote him, and desire to be inform'd without loss of time of his Intentions.

Also Read the following Letters from Captain John Caillaud.

To the Honble George Pigot Esqr.
President and Governor &ca. Gentlemen of the Committee.

No. 19. Honble Sir & Sirs

Since my last of the 3d. Instant No. 18 I have been honour'd with two of your favours Gentlemen of the 22d. and 30th November No. 15 and 16.

Mr. Newton has inform'd you Gentlemen of Monogee's Return, partly owing to the delay of assistance expected from the Moravar (occasion'd by the death of his Principal Man) partly to the King's apprehensions from Report, that I would not stay by quiet and see them act, and partly I believe from a great want of Money which prevented them keeping Troops long out in the Field, on their return they behaved with Insolence, and now with Sulleness towards Mr. Newton. I wrote to Monogee when he came back, and took that opportunity of making him a Present I had long promised him. In answer to my Letter (in which I hinted my hearing that the King and him were displeased ;) I receiv'd the inclos'd from him, Copy of which I now Gentln., transmit to you, and so rests the Affair.

This day I make the first Tryal for selling off the Old Grain at Tanjore, I flatter myself it will answer and particularly if I can persuade Monogee to let it pass duty free ; My first Intention was to have sold it here to Tanjore Merchants, and saved further trouble ; But I could not bring it about, this method however allowing the Rice cannot pass duty free and the Expence of Carriage paid ; yet it will answer better than being obliged to sell it here in our Buzar at thirteen Seer ℔ Rupee, at the same Rate the Merchants are obliged to sell theirs ; My attempts to make Rice cheaper (that by that means I could still reduce the Monthly Expence in point of Batta for this Garrison) have been fruitless, The Merchants cannot afford it ; the little rain that has fell this Monsoon rather makes it to be apprehended it will increase in Price than lessen ; I am unwilling 'till this Affair is settled to send you Gentlemen a State of the Magazine ; But as soon as I can effect it to your Satisfaction I will send one as regular as possible, which shall be continued monthly with the Returns and Reports of this Garrison.

I now send according to your desire Gentlemen an Account of the Buzar Duties rais'd in Trichenopoly commonly calld Long Custom. The Killedar having given me a Note for the Money advanced ; and Security for the Monthly payment of Repairs and Charges General, I have return'd the Buzar into his own hands. The Charges General of August and September which I added to the Account in October, and credited myself for I have included in the Nabob's Account, and also Subtracted out of the October and the November Months all those Articles which you think Gentlemen the Nabob ought to pay. In my next General Account for this Month, I shall give the Honble Company Credit for that Sum, as the Kellidar is to pay me.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1756.*—— [7m.]

Along with this goes Copy of a Letter from the Person I sent as Vackeel to Mauphoos Cawn, giving an Account for howmuch and to whom the Tinnevelly and Madura Countries are rented. Mauphooz Cawn wrote me a Letter Agreable to the Account the Vackeel gives of it, and not one word of the Money due mention'd in it, he promises another Letter soon on that Subject.

There is no hopes as you will see Gentlemen of getting the whole Money from the Pollygar Securities. They are willing to pay the half, for which only they say they were given as Hostages, I shall wait your further Instructions on that head, and take care of the Prisoners.

The French Garrison at Syringham joined with a Party from Pondichery, are again displacing the Old Rhedy of Toriour and reinstating his Cousin. The Rheddy was dilatory in paying his Tribute, and other Sums promised, the other promises to be more punctual. I will keep a strict watch over all their Motions, that they attempt no more than what at present they say they are about, or have a right to.

A few days ago two Deserters came from Syringham here Frenchmen, that had been in our Service; Deserters first from theirs, at the time Major Kilpatrick commanded here a like Affair happen'd between M^r. De Saussay and him; A Man deserted from this Garrison who had been formerly a Deserter from them. The Major demanded him according to the Cartel, M^r. De Saussay's answer was, that he did not deem him as comprehended in the Cartel, and that instead of returning him he would send him Prisoner and to be tried at Pondichery the two Men have been demanded from me and I have return'd M^r. De Saussay's Answer for a Refusal. You will please to honor me Gentlemen with your Directions about them.

I have sent down the Evidencies according to Order to attend at the Trial of that unfortunate Man for Murder.

I shall be extremely attentive Gentlemen to your caution of not leaving any thing to chance with regard to the Nabob's Quota which is to be paid here, In that and every other Order and Direction I have been honor'd with I will endeavor to be exact and punctual in the Observance of them, and prove the Respect with which I am Honble Sir & Sirs Your most Obedient and faithful Servant

Trichenopoly
23^d December 1755. JOHN CAILLAUD.

Translate of Rayal Pundela, Vackeel's Letter, Dated Chacumpatty 5th. December 1755.

On my Arrival here I went directly to Mohofoz Cawn, and deliver'd him the Letter of our Master and told him the Business for which I was sent to him, the Nabob told me; Go and come again to-morrow and I will give you an Answer. Accordingly I went the next day to the Nabob (Hussan Mahomed Cawn being present) the Nabob told me that Colonel Heron and his Dubash Rangapanaick would absolutely farm Tinnevelly Country to Teterapa Moodelair. without his Agreement, and against his pleasure, for which reason he promis'd one Lack of Rupees more only to hinder the Colonel giving the Country to Tetarapa Modelair, that he has paid the Company what Money he could collect at that time in part of payment, and it was not possible to get more Money to pay the rest, to which I replied, how could he agree with the Company to pay so much and now say that he could not get More Money. he answer'd me that it was only to hinder Colonel Heron from giving Tinnevelly Country to Teterapa Moodelair, and as the Nabob Annaverdy Cawn is at Arcot he desired the Company to apply to him, and he will settle every thing; I desir'd the Nabob to give me an Answer for our Master which he promised to do, I hear he has sent the Copy of our Master's Letter to the Nabob Annaverdy Cawn, he deliver'd me the Inclos'd Letter for our Master in which he gives only an Account of the Transactions with the Polygars, and about the Securities that you have in Trichenopoly, the matter of Money is entirely omitted in the Letter, and he will say nothing till

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[7th] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1756.*——

such time he receives an Answer from the Nabob Annaverdy Cawn, he told me that he had wrote to the Pollygars about the People they have sent as Securities to Trichenopoly to which the Pollygars sent an answer to him that the Securities were given only, for half the Sum of Money laid upon them and they were willing to pay the half provided the Nabob would perform his promise to send the Securities back to their Country as for the other half that he must wait till further Opportunity, that it was not in his power to force any of the Pollygars and that they will not agree with him in any fair Proposals, that nothing could be done for the Present except the Company would send their forces to bring them all to reason Except Mahofoz Cawn and Hussan Mahomed Cawn all the rest of the Court and Country People are of Opinion that the Pollygars will make Difficulties to pay the Tribute if not forced by an English Army to do it, of which the Pollygars are much afraid, and that they were all terrified the first time the English Army was in their Country.

An Account for how much Money and to whom the Countries are farm'd by the Nabob Mahofoz Cawn.

Tinnevelly	Farmer's Names.	Chaqueras.
Darwarcherum Country ...	Sheterama Chitty ...	180,000
Alwa Ternevelly Do. ...	Ramya Comp$^{y's}$ Conicoply 60,000	
Kullechegarapatnam ...	Do. 44,000	104,000
Callekado	Amienhody Cawn ...	80,000
Nademandelum Chevelypoutour.	Abdulmaley Cawn ...	100,000
Strivecontom	Patriapoola	44,000
Alwarcourchy & Ambasametrom.	Gorapach chingee ...	31,000
Brahadecham Manarcoyl ...	Tatapoula...	30,000
Wiramanelloor	Oppara Narrain	13,000
Tancanchey	Abdulrama Cawn ...	45,000
Gangondra Panchaly ...	Aby Bolla Cawn ...	6,000
Katorotalo	Do. ...	2,500
Tataparatolo and Changalacourchy	Meer Golam Haydra ...	4,000
Arianawarum	Mahomed Said	3,000
Ponacory and Tatacory ...	Kisnaraya	2,500
Callianallour and Mannour...	Lal Cawn	5,000
Charalapary	Chaquarapoula	3,000
Karochery	Sopremania Poula ...	3,000
Suburbs of Tinnevelly and the Buzar Customs ...	the Nabob's Servants ...	13,000
Wiseapatty and Daraporam...	Meer Golam Hadra ...	13,000
	Total Chacqueras ...	682,000
Each Chacquera at $2\frac{1}{2}$ Rupees is Rupees		1,705,000
The Pollygars		400,000
Tinnavelly Country amounting to Rup^{s}		2,105,000
The whole Madura Country farm'd by Barkatola Cawn to Mootoochavacara for		325,000
	Total Rupees ...	2,430,000

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1756.*—— [7TH.]

This is a true and just Account, the Presents made to the Divan and other Officers, Servants belonging to it is not included; in case the Company send their forces into this Country the Pollygars would Submit to pay, 100,000 Rupees more.

To THE HONORABLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQR.
&CA. GENTLEMEN OF THE COMMITTEE.

Honble Sir & Sirs

As I had not room in my foregoing Letter this is to inform you Gentlemen that agreable to the discretional Order you have been pleas'd to grant to Commanding Officers of discharging Topasses unfit for Service; I have discharg'd twenty Six, which Number brings me upon the Establishment and which Men were really a Burthen on the Company those of them which have serv'd above ten Years I have taken the Liberty to recommend them in their Discharges for Invalids.

Ensign Clarke having linger'd here for this long time under, (I much fear,) an incurable Disorder At the Representation of Doctor Wilson, and at his own Request I have given him leave to go to the Coast. I remain with great respect

Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedt. & faithful Servant

Trichenopoly
23d. December 1755. JNO. CAILLAUD.

Agreed that Captain Caillaud be advis'd of our foregoing Resolution relating to the King of Tanjour and directed to assist as he sees occasion in checking his present restless Disposition without however driving him off from our Interest for we are very sensible of the Weight his Friendship bears in our Cause, but this Friendship cannot be depended on untill we have convinc'd him that it is as much for his Benefit as ours.

And in answer to the other parts of Captn. Caillaud's Letters it is Agreed to write him

That we leave the Grain to his Management but as from the want of Rain to the Southward there is likely to be a Scarcity it will be the more necessary for him to secure fresh Supplies as he sells out the old.

That as the Agreement with the Pollygars was that upon making the first payment and giving fresh Security for the remainder, the first Hostages should be deliver'd up, we are willing to release them upon those Conditions, but cannot part with them on any other Terms, for fear the Example should have a bad Effect on future Occasions.

That he must continue his Endeavors to recover the Money due from Mohofoz Cawn.

That we shall wait for Application from Mr. De Leyrit concerning the two French Deserters, He is therefore to keep them till further Orders.

And That we much approve of his discharging the unserviceable Topasses, but as very few of those People have distinguish'd themselves even in a Ten Years Service, we would have him be cautious of recommending them for Pensioners, the Number of which is already very large.

GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
AR. WYNCH.
ROBT. PALK.

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[8TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1756.*——

Sent the following Letters to William Perceval Esqr Major James Kilpatrick, Captain Caillaud and Mr Newton.

To WILLIAM PERCEVAL ESQ^{R}.

Sir

We have receiv'd your Letter of the 1st Instant with the Copies of the Papers relating to the Nabob's Agreement with Bommerauze. The first payment to the Company being due yesterday we inclose you the President's Letter demanding the Money which you will also write about at the same time.

We shall send the Nabob a Present of such Curiosities as we can get together on the occasion of his Wedding. We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants GEORGE PIGOT—STRINGER LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY—ROB^{T} ORME—ALEXANDER WYNCH—ROBERT PALK.

Fort St George.
8th January 1756.

To MAJOR JAMES KILPATRICK.

Sir,

We have receiv'd your Letter of the 2^{d} and much approve of the Measures you took to reduce the Expences on the arrival of the Army at Arcot.

The Storekeeper has laid before us an indent from the Quarter Master Rumbold which being undersign'd by you we have order'd to be complied with as far as we are able althô the Demand for several of the Articles appears to us extraordinary, particularly the Wax Cloth, Oyl, Buff Slings, Pistol flints, and Candles of which many Maunds have been sent to Camp and we really do not see any great call there can be for them for the publick Service. The Expence of Stores is very considerable, we beg therefore that you will enjoin the Quarter Masters to be as careful as possible that none are wasted or misapplied and that you will be pleased in future to enclose all Indents to us. We are Sir Your most Obed^{t} Servants GEORGE PIGOT &C^{A}. COMMITTEE.

Fort St George
8th Janry. 1756.

P.S. Mr. Godwin is come in as are the Seapoys with the Tumbrils and Bullocks, and will return to Camp with the Guns and Stores in a day or two when we shall write you more particularly.

To CAPTAIN JOHN CAILLAUD.

No. 19. Sir,

We have receiv'd both your Letters of the 23^{d} December. By our last Advices from Mr Newton, we find the King of Tanjour was much out of Temper, shewing a particular dislike to Mr Newton and a general Discontent at our discountenancing his late Enterprize; As this is the Case we have thought it best to recall Mr Newton, not on the footing of a Complyance with Monogee's Request, but of Resentment for the Insults offer'd him. The King of Tanjore's Friendship has been so much Courted of late years, that he has a notion we imagine, that we cannot do without him, and that we must comply with all his Demands, which if he acts upon this Principle will rise continually. Certainly his Alliance is very essential to our cause, but this Alliance can never be depended upon unless it is founded on a Conviction on both Sides of a mutual Interest in it. We are therefore endeavouring to shew him that our friendship is as necessary to him as his to us. Inclosed is Copy of the Letters

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the President now writes to him and to Monogee and we leave it to you to inforce our Arguments as you see occasion, endeavouring to turn them to the use we intend that is to curb the King of Tanjore's present haughty Disposition, without however driving him off from our Alliance.

We doubt not of your best care in the management of the Grain and shall only remark to you that as the want of Rain in all the Southward Countries seems to forebode a Scarcity, it will be the more necessary for you to sell off the old by such degrees only as new comes in to supply the place.

We have before wrote you finally concerning the Buzzar Duties, Repairs and Charges General in our Letter of the 18th December; You will have nothing to do but to get from the Killedar the money you advanced, and then to go on in the manner there directed.

The Agreement with the Pollygars was, that upon making the first Payment, Other Persons should be given as a Security for the second; If the Pollygars will accordingly pay you the first half and give Security for the rest, you may release the Hostages but we cannot part with them upon any other Condition.

Your answer to the French Commandant on the Subject of the Deserters was very proper, you will keep them 'till you receive further Directions from us. We shall wait for Application from Mr. De Leyrit. The Attention you are giving to the Motions of the French Party in Toriour is quite Sufficient.

If Mohofoz Cawn collects the Rents of Madura and Tinnevelly according to the Account inclosed in your Letter he might very well afford to pay the Money he owes the Company. You will please to continue your Endeavours.

We have lately desir'd Colonel Adlercron to Send you a Warrant for holding a General Court Martial for the Tryal of the Man confin'd for Murder imagining that his receiving on the Spot the Punishment he may be found to deserve may have a good Effect on your Garrison. The Evidences will therefore be return'd to you.

We much approve of your discharging the Topasses and shall not grudge a Pension to such as have served ten years and behaved to Satisfaction, there are however many of that Cast who cannot claim much Merit after ten years Service & we would have you endeavor in future to make a Distinction for fear our List of Pensioners should grow too numerous. We are Sir Your most Obedt. Servants GEORGE PIGOT—STRINGER LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY—ROBT. ORME——ALEXR. WYNCH—ROBERT PALK.

Fort St. George
8 January 1756.

To MR. ANDREW NEWTON.

Sir

I have receiv'd your Letter of the 30th Decemr. and have made a strong Representation to the King of Tanjour concerning the ill Treatment you have lately met with. However as after what has happen'd your Residence there can be of no Service, you will come down to Devecotah and remain there under the Direction of Mr. Smith.

If this should find you at Tanjour you will wait on the King to take your leave of him and ask his Commands to me; If you should be at Trichenopoly you will call at Tanjour for the same Purpose, I have put the recalling you entirely on the footing of Resentment of the Injuries you received. I am Sir Your most Obedient Servant

Fort St. George
8th Jany 1756. GEORGE PIGOT.

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[8TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1756.*——

Lieutenant Godwin arrived from Camp with the following Letter from Major Kilpatrick.

To the Honorable George Pigot Esq^R. President and Governor and the Gentlemen of the Committee.

Honble Sir & Sirs

I am honor'd with your Letter of the 3^d Inst^t and have communicated to the Nabob your Intentions with respect to the Fort of Ellavanasoor, the Persons I sent to bring me a particular account of the place and to see if they were making any preparations for a Defence are not yet return'd, but as all our Intelligence as well as the Nabob's agree that it is absolutely necessary to employ heavy Cannon in reducing it, agreable to your Instructions. I have sent down Lieutenant Godwin with Bullocks, Tumbrils and Lascars to transport the heavy Cannon with it's Stores to this place, as I dare say you will agree with me in thinking it necessary I should take three field Pieces, The Hawbitzer, and Royal with me; should any Additions be wanting to transport the whole and their proper Stores (of which Lieutenant Godwin can inform you) you will please to give orders for supplying them at Madras or Camp. I have order'd down two Companies of Seapoys to escort them.

Saib Muckdoom who went to Veloor a few days ago on the part of the Nabob wrote him last night that the Killedar had agreed to his Terms in every respect except the Sum to be immediately paid, he insisting on a Lack and a half in ready Money and the other urging his Circumstances would not admit of his paying down more than one Lack, Saeb Muckdoom to compromise the Affair reduced the present payment to a Lack and a quarter; but the other still persisted as before. The Nabob expects farther Accounts every Hour, and I hope this news of sending for the heavy Cannon will hasten him to a conclusion. I am with the greatest Respect; Honble Sir & Sirs Your most Obedient and most humble Servant

Arcot
January 6th. 1756. James Kilpatrick.

Receiv'd a Letter from Duval de Leyrit Esqr. to the President dated the 7th as enter'd in the French Correspondence No. 4.

11. Two eighteen pounders with the necessary Stores being in readiness for the purposes resolv'd in Committee the 2^d. Inst^t. Lieutenant Godwin set out with them for Camp this day.

At a Committee

Present.

Monday the 12TH. George Pigot Esq^R. Governor, President
Stringer Lawrence Henry Lowney
Robert Orme Alexander Wynch
Robert Palk.
M^R. Perceval *absent on Service.*

The President lays before the Committee a Copy he receiv'd from M^r. Starke of Orders given out by Colonel Adlercron in the Garrisons of Fort St. David and Cuddalore the 3^d. Instant which Orders are as follow.

"As Fort St. David and Cuddalore are two distinct Garrisons, the Officers com-
"manding at either of those Places have no Authority one over the other, and are
"to receive no Orders but from the Commander in Chief".

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———*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1756.*——— [12th]

"The Deputy Governor is to give out the Parole for the Fort only: Tevene-
"patam, Cuddalore and all the other Guards within the Bounds are to send a non-
"Commission'd Officer to the Garden house every Evening before Retreat beating in
"order to receive it."

Thus Colonel Adlercron has taken upon himself the entire Government of the Town of Cuddalore and the out Guards at Fort St. David, which are the Avenues into the Bounds, and forbid the Company's Troops there posted to receive an Order from their proper Governors.

The bad Effects this Step of Colonel Adlercron must inevitably have on the Company's Interest, both Civil and Military, are so many and manifest; that the Committee are under the greatest concern to see him stretch his Authority to such a Length.

The Inhabitants of Cuddalore among which are the Company's Merchants, and all the principal Dealers within the Bounds of Fort St. David seeing that no orders are deriv'd from the Deputy Governor and that no Authority of his can be exercised in the Town will no doubt apply hereafter only to Colonel Adlercron for Protection, or for the Determination of any Disputes between them.

When the Inhabitants, not only of Cuddalore but throughout the whole Bounds, have occasion for any Goods to be pass'd to or frô, it will be only Colonel Adlercron that can give him permission. The immediate Effects of which will be

That the Inhabitants no longer regarding the Company as their Protectors will through [*sic*] off all Respect for their Authority and become ungovernable.

That the Company will be liable to continual Frauds in their Customs as Goods may be pass'd to and fro without knowledge of the Deputy Governour and Council or any Company's Servant.

And on the other hand the Inhabitants will be subject to the Impositions of the Officer's commanding at Cuddalore and the Out Guards who being made Independent of our Authority may introduce numberless most pernicious Abuses by Stopping and passing Goods and interfering in other Respects at their pleasure.

The Rendering the Company's Officers independent of their proper Governors, at once destroys all Military Subordination in the Company's Service.

Captain Schaub who commands at Cuddalore has already given proofs of his Desire to be independent as well as of the hurtful Consequences it must continually produce.

For by Letters from Captain Pascal Commandant at Fort St. David; dated the 4th Instant we are inform'd that Captain Schaub a few days before refused to obey an Order sent him by his Commanding Officer untill he was put under Arrest or threaten'd to be put under Arrest, which was undoubtedly owing to his being in the Secret of Colonel Adlercron's Intentions.

And the very day on which Colonel Adlercron publish [*sic*] the Orders hereinbefore recited, ten Swiss of Captain Schaub's Company deserted from Cuddalore. Notice was not given to the Commandant at Fort St. David untill the next day at noon, by which means the Deserters escaped, for by the News the Seapoys who were sent at noon, got of their Rout they must have been taken, had early Information been given of their Absence.

The Committee are willing to believe that it is only for want of Reflexion that Colonel Adlercron has taken this Step and that upon our Representation of the bad Consequences he will replace Things in their former Channel and do therefore Resolve to set before him the several beforemention'd Arguments, declaring to him at the same time that we acquit ourselves and render him answerable for any Hurts or Damages that may accrue from the Innovation he has made, either to the East India Company or to any Person residing or having a Property under their Protection.

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[1756.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1756.*——

And it is Agreed to give Directions to Mr. Starke to issue such Orders as he may find necessary for the Company's Service in the usual manner, and if any Officer refuses to obey them to desire Colonel Adlercron to appoint a General Court Martial for the tryal of such Officer the Committee being of Opinion, that the Steps taken by Colonel Adlercron in defiance of the Company's Authority may perhaps not be the Sense of all his Officers.

Since last meeting receiv'd the following Letter from William Perceval Esqr.

To the Hoñble George Pigot Esqr.
&^ca Gentlemen of the Committee.

Hoñible Sir & Sirs

I this morning receiv'd your favour of the 3^d Instant, Major Kilpatrick agreable to your Directions will prepare every thing necessary for the Attack of Ellavanasore and act therein in conjunction with the Nabob, we have acquainted the Nabob with your Intentions who will make use of the news of these Preparations to alarm Murtaz ally Cawn if he sees occasion; He yesterday inform'd me he hoped to settle every thing with him in an amicable manner, having sent a proper Person to him at his own Request for that purpose.

I now enclose a general Muster Roll of the Military, Seapoys &c^a Attendants on the Army by which you will observe the several Regulations are made agreable to your Orders. I am Hoñ'ble Sir & Sirs Your most Obed Servant

Mahomed Poor
(Arcot) Willm Perceval.
6th Jañry 1756.

Agreed to advise M^r. Perceval and Major Kilpatrick of Lieut^t Godwin's having set out with the heavy Cannon.

Letter from John Smith Esqr. at Deve Cotah read as follows.

To the Gentlemen of the Secret Committee
at Fort St. George.

Gentlemen

I receiv'd the honor of your Letter dated the 24th of last Month. As I was not acquainted with the Motives of your ordering so many Seapoys to be station'd at Deve Cotah flatter myself you will excuse the remark I made therein; I have since had the Seapoys muster'd and find that many of them were only Servants in the Garrison, others unfit for the Service and others again taken in since your Orders to Mr. Hopkins not to fill up any Vacancies; I have by dismissing them been able to reduce the Companies almost to the new Regulation, and in two or three days the New Rolls shall be transmitted to the Commissary. I am with respect Gentlemen Your most Obedient and most humble Servant

Deve Cotah
6 Jañry 1756. John Smith.

And the President at the same time lays before the Committee a Letter of the same date address'd to him by M^r. Smith, in which he mentions that Captain Spears the Commandant at Deve Cotah receiv'd on his Arrival there a Present of Six hundred Rupees from the Subidars of the Seapoys.

As this Money must have been raised by the Subidars enlisting bad Men at a less Pay than the Company allow, and Captain Spears could receive it only as a Reward for Suffering such Practices it came originally from the Company's Cash,

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1756.* —— [12]

Agreed therefore to demand it of Captain Spears in order to return it thither, leaving it to the President and Council to take proper Notice of Captain Spear's Misconduct, not only on this but for inlisting Men contrary to our express Orders when they receive a more circumstantial Account from Mr. Smith in his Report of his Proceedings in his Supravizorship.

Order'd that a Letter be wrote Mr. Smith desiring him to Demand the Money, and thanking him at the same time for his Diligence in establishing our Seapoy Regulations.

The Commissary lays before the Committee the Accounts of the Camp Disbursements for the Months of November and December, with his Report as follows pursuant to a Standing Order made the 17th December.

To the Hoñble George Pigot Esqr. President
&c.a. Gentlemen of the Committee of Safety.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

Pursuant to a standing Order of this board made some days ago, I now do myself the Honor to report to you that I have this day received the Accounts of Disbursements in Camp for the Months of November and December on which I am to remark

That tho the Batta to the Lascars of the Train appears to be paid conformable to an Abstract deliver'd in by the Lieutenant, yet the Muster roll is sign'd by Major Kilpatrick as is the Abstract of the Cooleys paid by the Quarter Master.

In the Month of November the Feast on the King's Birth day amounts unto P. P. 350—1 which I believe will appear no extraordinary Charge, nor do I see any other that I can deem such in the Accounts of either of these Months. I have the honor to be with great respect Hon'ble Sir & Sirs Your Most Obedient and most humble Servant

Madrass
12 Jañry 1756. Robert Orme.

Mr. Engineer Call having proceeded to Changleput pursuant to our Directions of the 2d Instant in Order to take a Survey of the Fortifications, wrote the following Letter to the President on that Subject.

To the Honorable George Pigot Esqr.
President & Governor of Fort St. George.

Hoñble Sir,

On considering the Situation of Changleput I find it so advantageous that by means of a large Tank and Paddy fields which either are or can always be laid under water, the approach of an Enemy on the North, East and West Sides is scarce practicable were the Fortifications on those Sides in a worse State than they are, but they are also capable of such a Defence that I imagine no Enemy will ever think of attempting the Reduction of this Place from any of these Quarters except it be by a Surprize which it is to be hoped will not happen to an English Garrison.

The South Side then is that which requires the most Attention to secure it against the Batteries of an Enemy which may be (as well as Mr. Clive's was) very easily erected and play with good Effect. The Person who built the Fort seems to have been very sensible of this, and has therefore by Art design'd it much Stronger than the other Sides, but at present the Parapets of the Towers and Cavaliers are in a very shatter'd Condition and certainly require to be repair'd otherwise the Guns and the Men who are to work them will be much exposed to the fire of the Enemy should the Place be attack'd The Parapet of the Bastion lately built by Captn. Gaupp is tumbled in, which with the want of Platforms renders that Work almost useless. There are also two Breaches in the False Bray near the Place where one

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[12—] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1756.*——

was made by Mr. Clive which made the Passage of the Ditch much more easy than it will be when they are repair'd. Upon the whole I cannot but think that the Repairs which Captain Polier has represented as necessary, are really so, and far from being in themselves expensive if done for less than 4000 Rupees which considering that the Bricks and Stone are to be had from Buildings in the Fort and Stone Chunam is at 42 Parah ℔ Pagoda may certainly be compleated for that Sum. What is already done cannot be remedied and therefore it will be unnecessary to say any thing on that Subject more than that it appears to me the money already expended in some Repairs and Additions might have been laid out to greater Advantage in laying stout Parapets on the Towers and Cavaliers from whence the chief Defence of the place is to come. Captain Polier having lately found a Pagoda in the Fort much more safe and proper for a Magazine than the place in use at present, the Expence for repairs on that head will be saved except in making two Doors and taking up the stone floor.

I can only add that what I have said of this place supposes it liable to be attack'd and to be garrison'd by the Company which circumstances being only known to you Sir and the Gentlemen of the Committee will probably be of greater weight in your Determinations than any thing that can be said further on the Subject by Honble Sir Your most Obedient & most humble Servant

Changlepet
10th Janry 1756. JOHN CALL.

The Committee remark that Mr. Call's Observations seem to be very judicious and as the Repairs mention'd in his Letter appear to be absolutely necessary, it is Agreed to write to the Nabob for the Sum of four thousand Rupees (the estimated Expence) to be remitted to Captain Polier that they may be begun on as soon as possible.

Mr. De Leyrit's Letter No. 4 dated the 7th Instant being read, is found to consist only of Remarks on some Expressions in a Letter of our Commissaries Dated the 3d November, without giving any Satisfaction on the Several Complaints, or speaking to the Proposals made to him by the President on the Subject of the Commissaries and the Contested Districts. He does not deny what is alledged by our Commissaries against Mr. Tobin and yet refuses to recal him, nor does he even endeavour to clear up the Affair of the Musket fir'd by the French Seapoy the Shot of which struck within three feet of our Commissaries.

Agreed to write to Mr. De Leyrit in answer that to pass over Complaints of Consequence with so much Indifference is not the way to preserve a Harmony between the two Nations and quite opposite to our Conduct for proof of which we refer him to the Affair of Mr. Paccard whom we recall'd from the Commissaryship on a Representation of Mr. Godeheu's merely for the sake of a good Understanding, for neither he nor the Committee who govern'd after him nor Mr. De Leyrit could ever prove the Truth of the Facts alledg'd against him.

Letter from the Nabob read as enter'd in the Country Correspondence No. 7 advising that by the means of Sydoó Phattaly Cawn whom he lately sent to Cudapah he had settled a firm Alliance with that Nabob, who was very desirous of an Assistance of ten English Gunners, but does not mention for what Occasion.

Letter also from the Nabob of Cudapah as enter'd No. 4 containing Assurances of his Sincere friendship for us and the Nabob and that his Troops are always ready to join us.

The President is desir'd to write to the Nabob of Cudapah expressing our great Joy at this Alliance and our willingness to assist in all his Affairs. And with regard to the Gunners to desire he will acquaint us what Business he has occasion to finish and we will then send an Officer with a proper Detachment.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1756.*—— [12m.]

For the Committee are unwilling to trust a non Commission'd Officer with a distant Command, for fear of his being guilty of Indiscretions.

GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
AR. WYNCH.
ROBT. PALK.

Pursuant to the Resolutions of yesterday's Committee

Sent a Letter from the President to Mr. De Leyrit of this Date as enter'd in the French Correspondence No. 5.

Also a Letter of this Date to Colonel Adlercron as enter'd in the Book of Correspondence with Coll. Adlercron No. 4.

And the following Letters to Richard Starke Esqr., William Perceval Esqr., John Smith Esqr., and Major James Kilpatrick.

To RICHARD STARKE ESQR.
DEPUTY GOVERNOR OF FORT ST. DAVID.

Sir

The President having laid before us the Copy you transmitted him of an Order publish'd by Colonel Adlercron in the Garrisons of Fort St. David and Cuddalore the 3d. Instant, we have thought it necessary to make a Representation to him on the Subject which we herewith inclose to you; After perusing it you will please to Seal it and send it to Colonel Adlercron.

And if you should afterwards have occasion to send any Order to Cuddalore or the Guards at the Bounds Hedge, regarding any Complaint of the Inhabitants, any Goods passing to or fro, or in short any other matter relating to your Government you will give it out in the usual manner, and if the Officer refuses to pay regard thereto, order him immediately in Arrest and apply to Colonel Adlercron for a Court Martial on him; Your Captain Commandant will prosecute for you whom you will instruct to acquaint the Court; That as Deputy Governor of Fort St. David all the Company's Officers on Service within those Bounds are obliged to obey your Orders, and that therefore you apprehend that such Officer (whoever it may happen to be) has been guilty of Breach of Orders in having refused to comply with yours on such an Occasion.

And altho the Court should acquit the Officer you will continue to act in the same manner upon every like Occasion.

You will likewise inform us immediately of every such Occurrence omitting no material Circumstance. We are Sir Your most Obedt. Servants GEORGE PIGOT—STRINGER LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY—ROBERT ORME—ALEXANDER WYNCH——ROBERT PALK.

Fort St. George
13th. Janry 1756.

To WILLIAM PERCEVAL ESQR.

Sir

We have receiv'd your Letter of the 6th. with the Monthly Papers accompanying, concerning which we have nothing particular to remark.

Lieutenant Godwin set out the 11th. with the Stores required by Major Kilpatrick.

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[13TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1756.*——

We are glad to hear of the Friendship settled between the Nabob and the Nabob of Cudapah, We have wrote to this last concerning the Assistance he applies to the Nabob for, assuring him that if he has any Affairs to settle within our Reach, and wherein we can join without breaking the Treaties, we will send him a small Detachment of our Troops with an Officer but we do not chuse to give him ten Men, because as they cannot have an Officer with them they may be guilty of Indiscretions; We have sent the Nabob a Copy of our Letter. We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants GEORGE PIGOT— STRINGER LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY—ROBERT ORME—ALEXR. WYNCH—ROBT PALK.

Fort St. George
13 January 1756.

To JOHN SMITH ESQR.

Sir

We have receiv'd your Letter of the 6th. Instant and are obliged to you for your diligence in the Establishment of our new Regulations, concerning the Seapoys, and for discharging all those you found unfit for Service.

By your Letter to the President of the same date we find that Captain Spears received Six hundred Rupees from the Subidars, which Money the Subidars could not have raised without enlisting unserviceable Men, at a less Pay than the Company allow, and putting the rest in their own Pockets, nor could Captain Spears receive it but as a Reward for admitting such Practices. We desire therefore you will be pleased to demand that money of Captain Spears, and repay it into the Company's Cash from whence it most [*sic*] originally have come. We are Sir Your most Obedt. Servants GEORGE PIGOT &CA. COMMITTEE.

Fort St. George
13th. Janury 1756.

To MAJOR JAMES KILPATRICK.

Sir

We have receiv'd your Letter of the 6th. and having deliver'd to Lieutenant Godwin the several Stores he requir'd, he set out again the 11th. for Arcot.

We leave it to you to take with you just what Field Pieces &ca. you think necessary for the intended Expedition, in which we wish you Success and are Sir Your most Obedient Servants

Fort St. George
13 Janry 1756.

GEORGE PIGOT &CA COMMITTEE.

MONDAY THE 19TH.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

GEORGE PIGOT ESQR. GOVERNOR PRESIDENT
STRINGER LAWRENCE — HENRY POWNEY
ROBERT ORME — ALEXANDER WYNCH
... — ROBERT PALK.
MR. PERCEVAL *absent on Service.*

Since last Meeting received the following Letters from William Perceval Esqr. & Major James Kilpatrick.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1756.*—— [19TH.]

To the Hoñble George Pigot Esqr.
&ca. Gentlemen of the Committee

Honble Sir & Sirs

I now enclose you a Bill of Exchange on Vanamaldoss for twenty two thousand five hundred Rupees payable in one Month from this date being half of forty five thousand Rupees receiv'd by the Nabob from Bommerauze, the other Bill for Sixty five thousand Rupees, thô due some days is not yet paid; and I fear it will be some time before we receive the amount, I formerly advised you we had no great dependence on the Merchant it was drawn upon tho' it was the best Security the Nabob could then get, and he still seems very certain this Money will be shortly paid ; I also send you by Lieutenant Sampson Bommerauze's Cadjan or Note for Seventy thousand Rupees formerly mention'd tho the first payment is due I think it will not be prudent to demand it till we receive the abovemention'd Sixty five thousand ; The Nabob chuses this Note shall lye in my hands, or he would be pull'd to pieces for it.

Murtaz ally Cawn's Vackeel is expected in this day and the Nabob has expectation of settling with him to his Satisfaction. I am Honorable Sir & Sirs

Your most Obedient humble Servant

Arcot
13 Jañry 1756.

Willm. Perceval.

To the Hoñble George Pigot Esqr.

Hoñble Sir

I have had a great deal of Fatigue and trouble about Bommerauze's Money ; The first Bill for Sixty five thousand Rupees had been given to me, in expectation of its being first paid, Out of which the Company was to be Satisfied and the remainder applied to some others of the Nabob's Creditors. The other Bill for forty five thousand Rupees the Nabob had possession of, and his Mother had demanded a large Share of it, Having made application day after day to the Nabob for the Payment of the First Bill to no purpose, I found myself obliged to insist on half of the other Bill of forty five thousand Rupees for the Company, being, I told him under great uneasiness, various Reports having been spread, as if the Money for the former Bill was very doubtful, I represented to him that as the Bill for forty five thousand was allow'd to be good the Company ought to have half of it and take their Fate with the Nabob in both Cases of the good and the bad, I at length prevail'd on him by laying before him the Advantages or disadvantages that would naturally accrue to him by his Conduct in this Affair. I am sensible I have greatly offended him by taking this Step, however I should have been wanting in my Duty to the Company had I done otherwise. The Nabob was very uneasy yesterday upon Advices he had received from Vellour and told me he fear'd Murtaz ally Cawn was trifling with him, to day he says he has had better news, Murtaz ally's Vackeel is expected and Meersaib formerly Duan to Subter ally Cawn also upon a Visit to the Nabob from Veloor. The Speedy Arrival of the great Guns &ca., may be of Service at this Juncture. I am with much truth and Esteem

Hoñble Sir
Your most Obedient humble Servant

Wm. Perceval.

Arcot
13th January 1756.

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[19ms.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1756.*——

To the Honble George Pigot Esqr. President and Governor &ca. Committee of Fort St. George.

Honble Sir & Sirs

I am honour'd with your Letters of the 8th and 13th Instant, agreable to the former I have spoke to the Quarter Masters about the consumption of Stores and they both assure me they are as carefull of them as possible and that none are misapplied, the reasons why their Indents appear so large particularly in those Articles you take Notice of is the great Expence of Wax Cloth; both Europeans and Seapoys use to cover the Locks of their Muskets, and by being continually in the Sun they soon become useless, Coconut Oyl has always been deliver'd out Monthly to each Company as no other is so proper for cleaning the Arms, and they cannot be kept in Order without it; in compliance with all former Indents to St. David for Slings no other than Country ones have been sent up which are so extremely bad that they soon break, and this was the reason why so great a number of Buff ones were wrote for imagining they would save a continual expence to the Company if the Men were compleated with good ones as their Old became useless, Among the Seapoys there are many Buccaneer and French Pieces much smaller than the English Musquet and we often find it difficult to get Flints small enough to serve them out of the common ones, as to Candles at present there can be no other use for them than to supply the Officers Guards and it is absolutely necessary they should have them to go the Rounds with, and for other Occurrences that may happen while on Duty, I would propose as the Wax Cloth is a heavy and almost daily Expence, that a sufficient Number of good Leather Coverings were made which would last a long time, and when the Men were once compleated we could easily oblige them to make good out of their pay any difficiency that proceeded from their Carelessness which cannot so easily be known while they use Wax cloth.

Lieutenant Godwin with the Eighteen Pounders and Stores have join'd the Army; as you have sent no particular Directions about supplying the extraordinary Bullocks for drawing the heavy Cannon, we shall be obliged to hire them, as I imagine that will come much cheaper than buying a Sufficient Number for that purpose.

Since addressing you last, the Persons I sent to Ellavanasoor are return'd, the Account they give agrees in every respect with that I formerly transmitted you, and add, they have made two strong Prickly Hedges to serve as Barriers, the one a mile and the other a Mile and half from the Fort.

Agreable to your Instructions of the 13th Instant I am making the necessary preparations by hiring Bullocks and Coolies for the intended Expedition and make no doubt but I shall march from this place on Tuesday next, I am the more desirous of getting away as soon as possible as I find an accommodation with the Killedar of Veloor is not near so far advanced as the Nabob gave me reasons to hope some time ago, and every thing being in readiness to march against Ellavanasoor the Nabob is extremely anxious it should be undertaken immediately, as by the time it can be finish'd He will be at a certainty whether or no the Veloor man will pay his reasonable and just Demands, and you also in case he should refuse come to a Determination how to proceed with him. On these considerations I thought it most prudent to undertake immediately the Reduction of this Pollygar. I am with the greatest Respect Honorable Sir & Sirs Your most Obliged and obedient humble Servant

Arcot
January 17: 1756. James Kilpatrick.

The President at the same time informs the Committee that upon Receipt of the above Letter from Major Kilpatrick late last night, observing that it was his Design to march with the Army to Ellavanasoor on Tuesday (that is tomorrow) he

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1756.*—— [19th.]

immediately return'd an answer directing him to defer his intended March untill he should receive the Orders of the Committee, the Behaviour of the Killedar of Veloor making it necessary to Debate whether he should not be brought to reason before any other Business is Undertaken.

The Kellidar of Veloor is the Chief and most powerful of all the Killedars in the Province, of a Temper, haughty, violent and ambitious but very artful. Seeing the Nabob near him at the head of an Army he has amused him hitherto with the hopes of paying him something of the Tribute due, on the first coming of the Army to Arcot it was thought a few days would finish that Accommodation, and we imagin'd the Appearance of the Heavy Cannon at that juncture would help it, It seems however by Major Kilpatrick's Letter that the Killedar has been only trifling with the Nabob and is now more backward than ever from whence we conclude he has got some Intimation that the Preparations making at Arcot with the heavy Cannon &c^{a}· were not design'd against him, It is plain therefore that the Resolution of that Killedar is to pay nothing but by force or an appearance of immediate Danger and as probable that if the Nabob should move further from him with the Army without Settling any thing, he would look upon it as a Point given up and refuse afterwards to come to any Reasonable Terms which, as he is a Chief among the Killedars &c^{a}· in the Province would be as hurtful an Example as his Speedy Submission would be a useful one. It is Agreed therefore to reinforce the Army with the Company of Grenadiers and to direct Major Kilpatrick to march as soon as possibly he can be in readiness with the Heavy Cannon and all the Troops towards Veloor and if he finds the Reduction of it not impracticable to make the necessary Dispositions for the Attack unless the Kyllydar should come to such Terms as the Nabob and M^{r}· Perceval shall esteem Satisfactory.

The President is desir'd to write a Letter to the Killedar expressing his concern that he should so long delay settling with the Nabob, and that it is not yet too late, but he must be speedy. This Letter is to be forwarded by Major Kilpatrick the day before he marches.

And as the Grain is now ripe on the Ground in most Parts of the Country it is Agreed to advise the Nabob to send Orders into all the Jagueers and Districts belonging to the Killedar of Veloor forbidding the Inhabitants to carry away the Grain without his (the Nabob's Permission) which will no doubt be a very effectual means of bringing the Killedar to reason.

Agreed also that Directions be given Captain Maskelyne to supply Major Kilpatrick with such a number of Military or Seapoys as he may desire for the intended Expedition and can be Spar'd consistently with the immediate Security of the Fort of Arcot.

The Bill for twenty-two thousand five hundred Rupees (22,500) inclos'd in M^{r}· Perceval's Letter payable by Vernamaldoss the 13th February next, having been tender'd and accepted, is lodged with the Commissary that he may demand the Money when due.

Bommerauze's Cadjan Obligation for Seventy thousand (70,000) Rupees, of which a Translation is enter'd in these Minutes the 7th Instant is also now lodg'd with the Commissary. And with regard to the other Bill given by Bommerauze for Sixty-five thousand (65,000) Rupees in which the Company have a Share of twenty-five thousand (25,000) to make up the Sum of forty-Seven thousand five hundred (47,500) being their half of the ninety Seven thousand (97,000) mention'd as ready Money in the Account Current enter'd on these Minutes the 7 Instant it appearing by M^{r}· Perceval's foregoing Letter that the Payment of it is very doubtful the Committee are very desirous of finding out whether they have been trifled with in the Acceptance of that Bill, and by whom in order to take some Resolution thereupon, tending at least to discourage such Impositions in future, It is Agreed therefore to direct M^{r}· Perceval to Send for the Merchant who accepted the Bill and enquire of him whether he will certainly pay it or not; If not, why he accepted it? and whether any underhand Means were employed to oblige him, And to acquaint us immediately with the Result of this Enquiry.

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[19TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1756.*——

The Method recommended by Major Kilpatrick of making Leather Coverings for the Musquet Locks, in order to save the great Expense of Wax Cloth, being approved by Colonel Lawrence it is Agreed to put it in Practice throughout all the Garrisons and that Orders be sent accordingly.

There being a few Topasses belonging to the Bengal Establishment, dispersed in the several Garrisons on the Coast who receive a pay equal to our Europeans, it is Agreed to take the first Opportunity of returning them to that Presidency. That those from Arcot and Camp be sent in hither for that purpose, and those from Deve Cotah and Trichenopoly to Fort St. David where Mr. Starke will be Directed to embark them with such as are already in that Garrison.

The following Letter from Captain John Caillaud read.

To the Hoñble George Pigot Esqr.
President and Governor &Ca Gentlemen
of the Committee at Madras.

No. 20. Hoñble Sir & Sirs

Since I wrote the 23d December No. 19 I have been honour'd with two of your favours Gentlemen No. 17 & 18 Dated the 13 and 18th of December.

In that last Letter I had the honor to inform you of my having return'd the Buzar into the Killedar's hands on his giving me a Bill for the Money already advanc'd and his promise to pay regularly in future. As you have reason Gentlemen to think that there is more collected from the Buzar than will appear by my Account, How there came to be so little permit me to inform you.

Finding the Killedar trifle with me and refusing to pay my profer'd Accounts, I order'd the Cutwall at the latter End of October to pay in to me the Buzar Duties, But I own it was with reluctance I was forced to take that Step. I was unwilling (tho I knew I could justifie it to you Gentlemen and to myself) to shew such an exertion of Power, that must so much lessen the Killedar in the Eyes of his People. His relationship to the Nabob, his age, Rank and Consideration I thought deserv'd as gentle treatment as I could with prudence give him, nor was I willing to give any Man Pain merely because I had it in my power. He earnestly and often press'd me to return the Buzar and only untill he could write to and receive an Answer from the Nabob, who had not given him Orders about any such monthly Payments, and as he was his Servant the Nabob might make him accountable for such Money paid without his Order tho' forced to it, if I had a mind to insist on the Buzar Duties. I then return'd to him the Buzar most of the Month of November; At the latter End of which or beginning [of] December when I receiv'd your favor of the 23d No. 16 with Instructions how to act I sent to the Killedar and told him the necessity I was under of again retaking the Buzar unless he would pay me the Money advanc'd. To which Latter he consented and gave me his Note, As I had the honor to inform you for all the Repairs and such Articles of Charges General as the Nabob was to pay for the four Months from August to November; The Note I have still by me for ten thousand Eight hundred and forty one Rupees (10,841), and shall return it when I know you are contented with only 600 Rupees to be put to the Credit of the Company, especially when you had reason Gentlemen to imagine there might be more, which indeed I might have collected, and which I hope you will excuse if I have done wrong in not doing so, Considering I ventur'd nothing having it always in my power to make the Killedar pay me when the Rents are collected.

I must beg leave to observe to you Gentlemen that thô upon the whole the Buzar Duties are rented for fifty two thousand Rupees yearly, the Monthly receipt of Customs differs greatly as it depends on the Quantities of Grain and Goods brought in. After the Crops are cut it is then at the highest, the Merchants laying in their Stocks of Grain the more Money is collected on the Duties of Import.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1756.*—— [19ra.]

With all the defference and respect due to your Orders Gentlemen Permit me to say something with regard to the last Directions received concerning the Repairs of this Fort. The Estimate of any Work to be undertaken it is highly proper should be laid before you ; But the charges which are made Monthly on Account of Repairs, (pardon me) will hardly admit of such an Estimate. There have always been here a number of Men kept constantly in pay to do the work of the Fort, the Ill Condition and age of the Walls demand constant Attendance, besides the different Magazines Barracks, and Sepoy Posts keeps the number of People charged always employ'd ; were we to trust to the getting of Workmen when any little job is done ; It would on the whole be attended with more Expence than the Number always kept in pay, and sometimes even it might be hard to get them. I humbly then lay it to your Consideration Gentlemen, Either that such a Number of Men be kept up monthly and charged to the Nabob or else that he or his Killedar in his absence, will supply me with workmen when I may demand them for publick work to be done.

When any one work of consequence is to be undertaken, And an additional number of Workmen requir'd, more than the Number I now send down which I offer to you Gentlemen and I think is necessary for the constant work and Repairs of this Fort. Then an Estimate to be laid before you of the Expence and necessity of such a Work, and nothing of the kind begun upon without first your consent and Instructions. But the charge now made for Repairs is really no more than such a number of Men constantly kept employ'd in daily Repairs and work required in this Place.

Before I was honour'd with your Directions I had begun a work which it is necessary you should be inform'd of, that an Order may be got for the Pavment, It is making a draw Bridge at Madura Gate. the ill condition of the other for which I humbly refer to Colonel Lawrence's knowledge, and his report will shew the necessity of the undertaking. and I now transmit an Estimate of the Expence and an Account of the Work.

Inclos'd I have the honor to transmit to you Gentlemen the returns of the Garrison, and also a general Return of the Companies now levell'd by the late Discharge of Topasses to the Establishment, An Estimate of the Bridge, An Account of the Number of Men Submitted to your Consideration, which I have thought necessary for the constant Work and Repairs of the Fort, and the Materials which such a number of Workmen can be supposed to make use of, with the overplus Attendants may be supplied by the Nabob or charged to the Company as you Gentlemen may think fit, My Accounts are made up this Month as usual without the Repairs included. But a Separate Account given in of them. One with the Particulars as is customary for December. The other five Months with the Sum total refering to the Account of Particulars already sent, I may be honour'd with your Opinions and orders before the next Month and then the Repairs shall be charged if any Alteration is made as you may think proper.

Mr. Newton arriv'd here yesterday from Tanjore and hath inform'd me that before he came away he had the honour of writing to the President his reasons for it. If they have any design by such extraordinary behaviour It is yet a Secret. I shall endeavour to get and transmit to you Gentlemen constantly the best Intelligence I can of their Motions. I am with great Respect Honorable Sir & Sirs Your most Obedient and faithful Servant

Trichenopoly
3d Janry 1756. J. CAILLAUD.

P.S. I had omitted to inform you Gentlemen that the Man I sent down for Murder is return'd here according to your Orders to the Deputy Governor of Fort St. David. I wait your further Directions about him.

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[19th.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1756.*——

The Sum mention'd in the above Letter from Captn Caillaud to be collected from the Buzar Duties (only 600 Rupees) does indeed fall very far short of the Expectations of the Committee but the Reasons therein given are at the same time such as we cannot but approve.

And as Captain Caillaud has in his hands the Kellidar's Note for Security, the Intentions of the Committee will be equally answer'd by receiving from him (the Killedar) the Ballance of the Money advanced by the Company for the Repairs of the Fort of Trichenopoly for the Months of August, September, October, November & December which Ballance according to the Account Current now read amounts to Rupees Seven thousand, eight hundred & thirty-Six & fifteen Cash (7,836–15).

Agreed that Directions be sent Captn Caillaud to demand the said Sum from the Kelledar, and deliver up his Note as soon as he has receiv'd it.

The two Estimates transmitted by Capt. Caillaud read.

One, of the number of Workmen necessary to be constantly kept in Pay to attend on the Fortifications of Trichenopoly amounting to Six hundred fifty two Rupees (652) ℔ Month.

The other, of a Draw Bridge begun to be built for one of the Gates of Trichenopoly amounting to four thousand three hundred forty five (4,345) Rupees.

Both these being approved by the Committee it is Agreed to transmit them to Mr. Perceval that he may present them to the Nabob, and desire him to give the necessary Orders for Supplying the Money.

And the President will also write at the same time to the Nabob, on the Several Subjects debated at this Meeting.

Letter from Sanawasachery Renter of Terpetty Read inclosing a Bill for Six thousand (6,000) Pagodas on account of the December or Second Kist.

Order'd that the Commissary demand Payment.

Letter from Messrs. Gauppe and Bannatyne Commissaries at Maderantegum read as enter'd in the Proceedings of the Commissaries No. 1 inclosing an Account of their Expences from 13 August to 31 Decemr. last and representing the Impossibility of their answering the end of their Mission by reason that the French Commissaries reject all reasonable means of bringing the Truth to Light.

Order'd that the Commissary do examine the account of charges and report his Opinion.

And as Mr. De Leyrit so long neglects answering the Letters the President wrote him on the Subject of the contested Districts the 12th and 20th November and shews not the least inclination to have the Right settled, it is Agreed to maintain an equal Authority there by the same means which the French practice that is by dispersing Sepoys in the different Villages & in order to be also on the same footing of Expence that the Commissaries enquire whether the French pay those Seapoys any Batta, if not that they endeavour to lodge ours also without Batta, cautioning them at the same time not to oppress the Inhabitants but to endeavour to make them their Friends.

GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
AR. WYNCH.
ROBT. PALK.

Sent a Letter to the Commissaries for Contested Districts as enter'd in their Proceedings No. 2, also the following Letters to Richard Starke Esqr. William Perceval Esqr. John Smith Esqr. Major James Kilpatrick and Captain John Caillaud pursuant to the Resolutions of Yesterday.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1756.*—— [20th.]

To RICHARD STARKE ESQR.

Sir

We have order'd all the Bengal Topasses that are at Deve Cotah and Trichenopoly to be sent to St. David where you will please to keep them till a Conveyance offers for Bengal and then embark them.

Having found the Expence of Wax Cloth for covering the Locks of the Musquets at the several Garrisons a very heavy charge, we have resolv'd to put an end to it by supplying all the Men with Leather coverings. You will therefore order your Storekeeper to set about making a Sufficient number for your People who must be answerable for such as they lose by neglect and you are not to supply them with any more Wax Cloth. We are Sir Your most Obedt. Servants GEORGE PIGOT —STRINGER LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY—ROBT. ORME—ALEXR. WYNCH——ROBT. PALK.

Fort St. George
20th Janry 1756.

To WILLIAM PERCEVAL ESQR.

Sir

We have receiv'd your Letter of the 13th Inst with Bommerauze's Cadjan Note for Seventy thousand Rupees and a Bill for twenty two thousand five hundred Rupees on Vernamaldoss who has promised to pay it when due. We doubt not of your utmost Endeavors to secure the Payment of the other Bill for Sixty five thousand Rupees and as we are resolv'd to call on Bommerauze again immediately if we find that the Bill is only an Imposition we would have you send for the Merchant it is drawn on, endeavor to get him with you and enquire whether any underhand means were employ'd to make him accept it & whether he will certainly pay it or not, representing to him in the last case how much he has deceiv'd the Company and hurt his own Credit by such an Action. Advise us immediately of the Result of this Enquiry and we shall send Orders accordingly.

And as by a Letter from Major Kilpatrick dated the 17 Instant we have reason to believe that the Kellidar of Veloor has been only trifling with the Nabob, we have resolv'd to bring him to reason before we enter upon any other Business and for this purpose now give Directions to Major Kilpatrick to march the whole Army with the heavy Cannon towards Veloor and if he finds the Reduction of the Fort practicable to make the necessary Disposition for the Attack of it unless the Killedar should come to such Terms as the Nabob and you shall approve and as he has put us to an extraordinary Expence our Demands should bear some proportion.

We have order'd out the Grenadier Company to reinforce the Army, and to distress the Killedar as much as possible have desir'd the Nabob and Major Kilpatrick to send threatening Letters to all the Jagueers and Districts dependent on him forbidding the Inhabitants to carry away any of the Grain without the Nabob's Permission which you will advise him by no means to grant untill the Killedar has settled to his Satisfaction.

And untill this Business of Murtaz ally Cawn and Bommerauze is Secur'd the Affair of Ellavanasoor must be delayed for the leaving one thing unfinish'd to set about another cannot but increase our Expences and lessen our Credit.

We consented some time ago upon the Nabob's Representations to advance the Charges General of Oil &c. for the use of the Garrisons out of the Company's Cash and he promised on his part to furnish money for all Repairs of the Forts agreable to the Estimates the President should transmit him. In consequence of this Agreement we wrote him in our last Letter that our Engineer (Mr. Call) had been at Changleput to take a Survey of the Damages occasion'd there by the Rains and had inform'd us that four thousand Rupees were absolutely necessary to be laid out which

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[20th.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1756.*——

Sum we therefore desired him to remit to Captain Polier but we have yet receiv'd no Answer.

And lately we have heard from Captain Caillaud that he has return'd the Buzzar Duties into his hands of the Killedar, and he transmits us at the same time an account of the number of workmen necessary to be constantly kept in pay to attend on the Fortifications of Trichenopoly amounting Monthly to Six hundred fifty two Rupees, also an Estimate of the Expence of making a Draw Bridge for one of the Gates amounting to four thousand three hundred and forty five Rupees.

Of both these we inclose you Copies which you will present to the Nabob and desire him to give the necessary Orders for supplying the Several Sums abovemention'd. We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants GEORGE PIGOT—STRINGER LAWRENCE—HEN^Y POWNEY—ROB^T. ORME—ALEXANDER WYNCH——ROB^T. PALK.

Fort S^t. George
20 Janry 1756.

To JOHN SMITH ESQ^R.

Sir

If there are any Topasses in the Garrison of Deve Cotah belonging to the Bengal Establishment please to send them to Fort S^t. David advising M^r. Starke of the Number.

Having found the Expence of Wax Cloth for covering the Locks of the Muskets at the several Garri[sons] a very heavy charge we have resolv'd to put an end to it by supplying all the Men with Leather Coverings. You will therefore order a sufficient number to be made for your Garrison who must be answerable for such as they lose by neglect and you are not to supply them with any more Wax Cloth. We are Sir Your most Obed^t. Servants GEORGE PIGOT—STRINGER LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY—ROB^T. ORME—ALEXANDER WYNCH——ROB^T. PALK.

Fort S^t. George
20 Janry 1756.

To MAJOR JAMES KILPATRICK.

Sir

We have receiv'd your Letter dated the 17th. Inst^t. and we hope the Letter the President wrote you last night will reach you in time to prevent your marching for Ellavanasoor so soon as you intended.

For from the Behaviour of the Killedar of Veloor we judge that if the Army should once move further from him he will imagine that the Nabob has given up his Demand, and not only refuse hereafter to pay any thing but be encouraged even to act against us if there should be occasion.

We are therefore resolv'd in the first place to bring that Killedar to reasonable Terms with the Nabob, to which end you will please to march the whole Army with the heavy Cannon towards his Fort as soon as you can possibly get in readiness, and if the Killedar does not pay such a Sum and make such Concessions as the Nabob and M^r. Perceval shall 'tell you they are satisfied with, proceed on and without loss of time make the necessary Dispositions for the Attack of Veloor if after good Intelligence & reconnoitring it carefully you shall judge the Reduction of it not impracticable.

To render these your Operations the more Effectual we have order'd Captain Howes to join you with the Grenadier Company and also directed Captain Maskelyne to put under your Command such part of his Garrison both Military and Sepoys as you may find necessary and can be spar'd from the Fort of Arcot with safety. We have further order'd a few Men of Captn. Schaub's Company to join you from Changleput.

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——*FORT St· GEORGE, JANUARY 1756.*—— [90th]

As this is the Season when the greatest part of the Grain is ripe on the Ground we imagine an Advantage may be taken of the Killedar by that means and for that purpose have desir'd the Nabob to Send Strict Orders to all the Inhabitants of the Jagueers and other Territories belonging to him (the Killedar) not to dare to carry away any of the Grain without his permission. We have further desir'd the Nabob to give you a List of the said Jagueers and Territories, you will also at the same time send threatening Letters to the Inhabitants not to carry off the Grain and if those Letters have not a proper Effect detach some Seapoys thither and stop all the Revenues for the Nabob, at the same time you will give strict Orders to prevent their Plundering and oppressing the Inhabitants.

We have order'd Leather Coverings to be made for the Locks of the Musquets as well in Camp as all the Garrisons to prevent in future the large Expence of Wax Cloth. The Commissary will furnish you with Bullocks for drawing the heavy Cannon.

Please to send in all the Bengal Topasses that are with the Army as soon as the Veloor Affair is finish'd. We inclose you a Letter from the President to Murtaz ally Cawn which you will forward the day before you begin your March. We are Sir Your most Obed^{t}· Servants GEORGE PIGOT—STRINGER LAWRENCE—HEÑ POWNEY—ROB^{T}· ORME—ALEX^{R}· WYNCH———ROBERT ORME. [*sic.*]

Fort S^{t}· George,
20 Jañry 1756.

To CAPTAIN JOHN CAILLAUD.

Sir

No. 20.

We have before us your Letter of the 3^{d} Jañy N^{o}· 20 with the Several Papers that accompany it.

We did indeed imagine that the Money you would have collected from the Buzzar would have been at least equal to the Advance you had made for Repairs. Your Reasons however for giving up the Buzzar before you receiv'd our Orders and when you had collected only Six hundred Rupees are quite Satisfactory and as you have got the Killedar's Note our Intentions are answer'd just as well. You will please to call upon the Killedar for the Ballance due for Repairs which by the account inclosed in your Letter amounted the End of last Month to Seven thousand, eight hundred and thirty Six Rupees and fifteen Cash, and when you have receiv'd that Money deliver up his Note and proceed according to our Orders of the 18th December.

As you find the Number of Workmen proposed monthly, necessary for the constant Attendance of the Fortifications, you will keep them up conformably to your Estimate of 652 Rupees ℔ Month which we have transmitted to the Nabob and desir'd him to give orders for furnishing the Money. You are therefore to call upon the Killedar for it as well as for the Bricklayers Materials of Chunam Jaggaree &c^{a}· as mention'd at the foot of your Estimate.

And when any new work is to be undertaken continue to transmit us Estimates —That of making

a Draw bridge amounting to	Rs.	3,388
and Extra Workmen for 3 Months at Rs. 319	„	957
		4,345

we have sent also to the Nabob desiring him to give Orders for supplying you with that Sum. You will go in the mean time with the work and call on the Killedar for the Money.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1756.*——

Please to send all the Bengal Topasses that are in your Garrison to Fort S^{t}· David. We purpose to return them to Bengal by the first Opportunity.

Having found the Expence of Wax Cloth for covering the Locks of the Muskets at the several Garrisons a very heavy Charge, we have resolved to put an End to it by supplying the Men with Leather Coverings; You will therefore order a Sufficient number to be made for your Garrison who must be answerable for such as they lose by neglect and you are not to supply them with any more Wax Cloth. We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants GEO. PIGOT—STRING^{R}· LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY—ROB^{T}· ORME—ALEX^{R}· WYNCH——ROBERT PALK.

Fort S^{t}· George
20 Jañry 1756.

FRIDAY THE 23^{D}

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

GEORGE PIGOT Esq^{R}· GOVERNOR PRESIDENT
STRINGER LAWRENCE — HENRY POWNEY
ROBERT ORME — ALEXANDER WYNCH
... — ROBERT PALK.
M^{R}· PERCEVAL *absent on Service.*

The following Letter from Richard Starke Esqr· read with the Note mention'd to be inclosed.

To THE HOÑBLE THE PRESIDENT AND GOVERNOR
AND THE GENTLEMEN FOR CONDUCTING COUNTRY AFFAIRS.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

In consequence of your Letter of the 13th Instant deliver'd Colonel Adlercron I have this day received the inclos'd Note from him by the hands of Major Loveit wherein you will please to observe he says "That the order of the 3^{d} January was "by no means intended to disengage the Company's Officers from the Obedience they "owe to their Governors." What his Intentions by giving out such Orders were I will not take upon me to say but the Effect of them is evident by Captain Schaub's going to Pondichery a few days since without ever asking my Permission which I have acquainted Colonel Adlercron with. You will please to favor me with your Directions regarding the latter part of the Colonel's Note. I am with respect Hoñble Sir & Sirs Your most Obedient humble Servant

Fort S^{t}· David
19th· January 1756. RICH^{D}· STARKE.

Colonel Adlercron with his Compliments to the Deputy Governor acquaints him through Major Loveitt that the Order of the 3^{d} January was by no means intended to disengage the Company's Officers from the Obedience they owe to their Governors, nor has it any relation whatsoever to the civil administration here: but as several matters purely military were transacted without being communicated to him. The Colonel in Order to be acquainted with every thing of that kind, directed that no Military Orders should be receiv'd but such as were conveyed through the Commander in Chief, but whenever M^{r}· Starke desires any orders to be issued out for the Benefit of the Company upon his acquainting Colonel Adlercron therewith Directions will be given accordingly.

Garden house near
Fort S^{t}· David,
19th Jañry 1756

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1756.*—— [23D.]

The Committee having receiv'd no answer from Colonel Adlercron to the Letter wrote him the 13th. can only make their Observations on the foregoing Note sent by him to Mr. Starke.

If Colonel Adlercron's Intentions are such as are set forth in the first part of that Note "not to disengage the Company's Officers from the Obedience they owe "to their Governors, and not to interfere in any manner whatsoever with the Civil "Administration", They are directly contradicted by the Order he caused to be issued the 3d. which says "The Officers commanding at Fort St. David and Cuddalore have no Authority one over the other and are to receive No Orders but from the Commander in Chief."

By this Order the Company's Officers are positively forbid to receive any Orders from their proper Governors without exception even of such as may regard Civil Matters, and therefore if Colonel Adlercron has felt the force of the Representations made to him and is inclinable to replace Things in their former Channel the Revocation must be as publick and as positive as the Order, For a Note Sign'd by nobody cannot avail against publick Orders.

It is proved also by Examples that those Publick Orders have taken Effect whatever might be Coll. Adlercron's Intentions; Captain Schaub's going from Fort St. David to Pondichery without the Permission and without even acquainting the Deputy Governor is a fresh and Striking Instance.

We can however do no more than represent to Colonel Adlercron over again how much the Company's Affairs must Suffer by his lessening the Authority of the Company's Governors over any of their Settlements, And renew our former Declaration that he only is answerable for all Damages.

But as it appears to us that Captain Schaub has been guilty of Disrespect to the Deputy Governor in going to Pondichery without his Leave, and of Neglect of Duty in not immediately reporting to the Deputy Governor or the Commandant of St. David, the absence of the Ten Swiss who deserted from Cuddalore the 3d. Instant; It is Agreed to request of Coll. Adlercron to appoint a General Court Martial to try him for those Offences.

And to repeat the Directions before given Mr. Starke to issue his Orders in the usual Manner.

The following Letters from William Perceval Esqr. and Major James Kilpatrick Read.

To the Honorable George Pigot Esqr.
&c^a. Gentlemen of the Committee.

Honble Sir & Sirs

I have receiv'd your favours of the 8th. and 13th. Instant the former enclosing a Letter from the President to Bommerauze, which I shall forward to him this day tho I fear it will be some time before he complies with his Agreement, as the Nabob has not yet receiv'd any part of the Bill for 65,000 Rupees.

The Major with most of the Army will sett out for Ellavanasoor this afternoon, by Advices lately receiv'd from thence, the Nabob and Major Kilpatrick think it best to carry Troops sufficient to do the thing effectually, Kieredy Cawn accompanies the Major with the Command of the Nabob's Forces, being about five hundred Horse and four hundred Peons.

The Nabob now is convinc'd that Murtaz ally Cawn has only amused him indeed I believe his own People have deceived him he demands so many Sums to be struck off the Money he was to pay, that the Ballance will be very trifling. As the Forces now here are not thought Sufficient to reduce him, the Nabob will continue his Negociations while the Army is employ'd against Ellavanasoor and will inform you himself of what he thinks may be further necessary.

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[23D.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1756.*——

I purpose setting out for Madras in two or three days. I am Honorable Sir & Sirs

Your most Obedient humble Servant

Arcot
19 Jañry 1756.

WILLIAM PERCEVAL.

To the Honble George Pigot Esqr.

Sir

This Instant I have receiv'd the Letter you did me the honor to write the 18th, and am extremely sorry it did not reach me time enough to prevent the Army's moving from Arcot; for agreable to what I wrote the 17th. Instant, I march'd as far as Timmery the 18th. in the Evening and this day proceeded again on my way to Trinomely, As you and the Gentlemen of the Committee had consented to the Nabob's request of reducing the Pollygar of Ellavanasoor, I was of Opinion that the more Expedition was used on such an Occasion, the better Effect it would have, this join'd with the repeated sollicitations of the Nabob who plainly told me an Accommodation with the Killedar of Veloor was not near so far advanced as he expected it would have been induced me to comply with his request in undertaking this Expedition immediately.

As your Letter gives me hopes of receiving Orders from the Gentlemen of the Committee so soon, I propose halting on this Ground to morrow, and should I not receive them in that time shall march the Army back towards Arcot and continue on the Veloor Road till I am favour'd with them. I am with the greatest Respect Sir Your most Obedient and most humble Servant

Camp near Arriwaree
Jañry 20, 1756.

JAMES KILPATRICK.

To the Hoñble George Pigot Esqr.

Sir

Since closing the accompanying Letter it occurs to me that the Nabob may have wrote different to you from what he mention'd to me and that it may be a great means of preventing any Errors in future if you would be pleased to communicate to me what he writes concerning the Affairs I am employ'd in, as I will most punctually to you every thing he informs me of, and shall take all possible care to execute the Orders you are pleased to honour me with in consequence of it.

Should you and the Gentlemen come to a Resolution of reducing Veloor two twenty four pounders five hundred Europeans and fifteen hundred Seapoys added to our present force will be absolutely necessary for the undertaking. I am with the greatest respect Sir Your most Obedt & most humble Servant

Camp near Ariwaree
20 Jañry 1756.

JAMES KILPATRICK.

Also a Letter from the Nabob as enter'd in the Country Correspondence No. 13, recommending that the Affair of Ellavanasoor Should be first finish'd and afterwards that of Veloor.

The Committee nevertheless for the Reasons mention'd in the Minutes of last meeting do remain in the Resolution then made to proceed first to Veloor; the rather as Major Kilpatrick on receipt of our Orders of the 20th will already have taken that Rout.

Letter from Captn. Maskelyne regarding the Force of the Killedar of Veloor, Read representing that according to his Intelligence it consists of fifteen Renegado Europeans, four hundred Seapoys, two hundred horse and Seven hundred Matchlocks.

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——*FORT S^T. GEORGE, JANUARY 1756.*—— [23^D.]

If the above Information is to be depended on the Committee are of Opinion that it cannot require so large a Force as Major Kilpatrick speaks of in his last Letter to reduce the Killedar to Terms.

In Order however to make as sure as we possibly can of Success in case we should be obliged to proceed to Extremities it is Order'd that Captain Campbell do march immediately from hence to join the Army with his Company and two Companies of Seapoys.

And that Captain Polier who has already sent Eleven Men of Captain Schaub's Company from Changleput to Camp do further send forty Men of his own Company and four he has with him belonging to Captain Gauppe's Company.

Which Reinforcements together with what Men can be spar'd from Arcot (for which purpose Orders have already been sent Captain Maskelyne) are all we can conveniently spare, and will we doubt not be Sufficient to enable Major Kilpatrick to accomplish the Design of the Expedition.

The Commissary reports that he has examin'd the Accounts of Charges of the Commissaries for Contested Districts, pursuant to the Orders of last Committee and finds them to consist chiefly of Batta to Seapoys and other Persons employ'd on Publick Service

Order'd therefore that the said Accounts be pass'd.

Letter from M^r. Starke to the President read advising that he has compleated Seven Companies of Seapoys to the Establishment by which means he has one Subedar, one Jemidar, Eight Havildars one Naick and twelve Seapoys Supernumerary, concerning whom he requests Directions.

Order'd that the Subedar be sent up hither to be provided for if he is a Deserving Man, and that the rest be kept on pay at S^t. David to fill such Vacancies as may happen there or at Deve Cotah.

Agreed also that Directions be given M^r. Starke to acquaint the Coneycoplies of the Seapoy Companies that they are under the immediate Direction of our Paymaster to whom they are to make daily Report of all Casualties which by that means will be more regularly noted in the Pay rolls, and it is further Order'd that M^r. Dawson the Under Paymaster at S^t. David do pay every Seapoy with his own hand for which purpose five Pagodas a Month shall be allow'd him for the Nabob's Account, for a Palanquin to enable him to go to every Place where Seapoys are posted.

And to prevent the Abuses which we have reason to believe have been practised in filling up the Vacancies of Seapoy Officers it is Order'd that the Coneycoplies do make out Rolls of the Companies according to Rank and Seniority and that all Vacancies be fill'd by the next in Succession unless the Governor, Deputy Governor or Chief (by whom only the Appointments are to be made) Shall upon enquiry find a Sufficient Objection against such Person.

The President lays before the Committee the following Letter from M^r. Engineer Call.

To the Honble George Pigot Esqr.
President and Governor of Fort S^t. George.

Honble Sir

I had the honor to write you a Letter from Chinglepet relating to that Place and as the Observations I made on the road from thence to Fort S^t. David may be of some concern to the Country Affairs, I thought it my Duty to communicate them to you which is the Occasion of this Letter.

From Changleput I pass'd between Hills and in general through very bad roads till I arriv'd at Carongoly which as it is not taken Notice of in any Draughts of the Country which I have seen I was a little Surpriz'd to find a Fort of a larger Extent

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[23] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1756.*——

than Changleput surrounded with a double Wall faced with Stone and a Ditch which in some places is full of Water, and in others quite Dry. However this Place is not of any great Strength for its extent is too large to be defended by any thing less than a little Army and the Parapets of the Towers are in very bad Repair. from hence I pass'd on to Madarantegum two Miles distant where I staid one day and then continued my Rout to this Place which lies nearly on the same Meridian. Thro most of the Villages which I pass'd the People seem'd to acknowledge the French Government and I observ'd that the French have been planting Trees and repairing the Roads by cutting down Bushes, levelling high Ground, and filling up hollow Places from which I suppose they expect two Conveniencies the one of marching Troops and Cannon with the greater Ease and the other of inviting the Country People by the goodness of the Roads to carry Rice and other Provisions to Pondichery. When I reach'd the high Land which stretches along a little to the West of Pondichery, I was at once struck with the appearance of a Fort or rather Intrenchment thrown up on the Brow of the Hill above Vilienore which as far as I could observe was made in the Form here annexed. There were People facing the Works with Turf when I pass'd, and Centinels posted round or I should have taken a more particular Survey, as it was, I could perceive that there were a great many long thatch'd Houses built within, where I saw both European Soldiers and Seapoys, there were also Embrasures for Cannon and Barrier Passages cover'd with Breast Works. In passing thro the Village I also perceived a new Building carrying on, which had much the Appearance of a small Fort with Casemates for Cannon there was a Flag Staff in one Corner and a sort of unfinish'd Glacis running round the whole. It lays nearly at the West End of the Village and appear'd to me as represented in the annex'd Drawing. I hope these Remarks will be of some Use and I have the honor to be Hoñble Sir Your most Obedient and most humble Servant

Fort St. David
Jañry 17th 1756. JOHN CALL.

Agreed that Directions be sent to Mr. Starke to make the best Enquiry concerning the Fortifications mention'd by Mr. Call to be carrying on by the French at Villenoor, whether they are only Repairs ; or new Works ; because in the last Case it is a Breach of the Truce. That Mr. Call be thank'd for his Information and desir'd to continue his Remarks on all Occasions.

GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
AR WYNCH.
ROBT. PALK.

Pursuant to this Mornings Resolutions Sent a Letter to Colonel Adlercron of this Date (as enter'd No. 6) under Cover of the following Letter to Richard Starke Esqr.

To RICHARD STARKE ESQR.
DEPUTY GOVERNOR OF FORT ST. DAVID.

Sir

Upon receipt of your Letter of the 19th with the Note brought you by Major Loveitt we thought proper to write a Second Letter to Colonel Adlercron on the Subject of the Orders he gave out the 3d Instant. We transmit you herewith our said Letter, which after perusing you will seal and Deliver.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1756.*—— [23d]

You will continue to give out such Orders to the Company's Officers as you shall find necessary for the Benefit of the Company and apply to Col[l]. Adlercron for a Court Martial for the Tryal of such as shall refuse to obey them in the manner pointed out in our Letter of the 13th.

We desire you will inform us whether any of the ten Swiss who deserted the 3d from Cuddalore are return'd and whether you have any news of their Route, because if they are got to Pondichery as we have some reason to imagine, they ought to be sent back in consequence of the Cartel.

We are glad to find you have regulated your Seapoys according to our new Establishment, Send the Supernumerary Subidar hither and keep the other Supernumeraries in pay with you in order to fill up the first Vacancies that may happen either at your Place or Deve Cotah.

For the further Regulation of the Seapoys Pay, we think proper to direct that the Coneycoply of every Company be entirely under the Direction of the Paymaster and make daily Report to him of the Casualties, in order that he may see it regularly noted on the Payrolls agreable to which every Seapoy is to be paid by the hands of Mr. Dawson the under Paymaster who shall be allow'd 5 Pagodas a Month for a Palanquin to enable him to go to every Place where Seapoys are posted which is to be charged to the Nabob's Account.

You will please to give a Copy of the foregoing Paragraph to your Paymaster and order the Coneycoplies to make out Rolls of the Several Companies according to Rank and Seniority, that so when any Vacancies of Officers happen they may be fill'd by the next in rank in the Same Company, unless the Commanding Officer or Subidar of the Company through him, shall shew a material Objection against Such Person. All Appointments shall be made agreable to the Rule beforemention'd and always on the first day of the next Month (by the Deputy [Gover]nor or with his approbation) at which time their Pay is to commence.

By the Information we have receiv'd from Mr. Call we find the French are employed in making some Redoubt or Fortification at Villenoor, and we have heard something of the same sort from Portonovo. These are Occurrences of consequence and such as you should by no means omit to advise us of. We must recommend it to you to be punctual and full in your Advices upon all Occasions and with regard to these Works of the French we desire you will employ proper Persons to enquire into the Nature of them whether they are new Buildings, or only repairs and when they were begun. We are Sir Your most Obedt. Servants GEORGE PIGOT —STRINGER LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY—ROBERT ORME—ALEXR. WYNCH—ROBERT PALK.

Fort St. George
23rd. Janry 1756.

Sent the following letter to Major James Kilpatrick pursuant to yesterday's Resolutions.

To MAJOR JAMES KILPATRICK.

Sir

The President has communicated to us your Letters of the 20th. January, and we hope what we wrote you under that Date has found you on your March to Veloor We are not a little amazed to find you of Opinion that the Strength of Veloor will require so large a Force to reduce it, we hope there will be no occasion for an undertaki[ng] of that kind and that your appearance in his Districts will bring him immediately to terms, however should it be necessary to use force that you may be more certain of Success we now add to the Grenadier Company sent you some days ago that of Captain Campbell with two Companies of Seapoys we think Captain Maskelyne can spare you forty Europeans from Arcot, and we have directed Captain

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[28D.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1756.*——

Polier to send you the like Number from Changleput As to Cannon, Arcot can furnish you with two or three more eighteen Pounders but as we have already said we think it very improbable the Killedar will oblige you to come to Extremities; His Pettah is open which no doubt will induce him to agree to the Proposals which the Nabob and you shall make. What those Proposals are to be you will learn from the Nabob but we think an extraordinary Demand should be made on account of the Extraordinary Expence. Mr. Perceval is arriv'd and in his Absence we repose the same Confidence in you desiring you will transact our Affairs with the Nabob and give him your advice on all Occasions. In his last Letter he is very pressing for your March to Ellavanasoor, we have never receiv'd any from him but what Correspond quite with your Advices, Whenever that is not the Case we shall not fail to Send you Copies of his Letters. Wishing you Success We are Sir Your most Obedt. Servants GEORGE PIGOT—STRINGR. LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY—ROBT. ORME—ALEXR. WYNCH—ROBERT PALK.

Fort St. George
[24] Jany 1756.

P.S. We now send you 600 Seapoy Coats which you will deliver out as far as they will go and stop two Rupees a Month for two Months from each man whom you may please to give them to. We shall supply the rest as fast as we can have them made up and you are then to Stop from them in the same manner but not till they get their Cloathing.

Receiv'd a Letter from Colonel Adlercron as enter'd N°. 7.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

MONDAY THE 26TH. GEORGE PIGOT ESQR. GOVERNOR PRESIDENT

STRINGER LAWRENCE	HENRY POWNEY
ROBERT ORME	ALEXANDER WYNCH
WILLIAM PERCEVAL	ROBERT PALK.

Mr. Perceval after having receiv'd the thanks of the Committee for his Services abroad, informs them that the Nabob is of Opinion the Fort of Veloor should by all means be taken if once the Army goes against it, because after having made him an Enemy if he is suffer'd to keep the Fort he will take all Occasions of shewing his Resentment— That the next Step should be the taking of Ellavanasoor— Then the collecting the Tributes due from the Polligars of Worriarpollam and Ariolour— and after that the settling of Tinnevelly which by the Letters lately receiv'd from Mohofoz Cawn is in a very dangerous Situation.

As to the Friendship or Enmity of Murtaz ally Cawn the Killedar of Veloor the Committee very well know that neither the first is to be depended on nor the latter fear'd but just as his own Interest happens to be concern'd. That Consideration will therefore have no weight with us, He is a Subject of the Nabob's, and owes him Tribute, we therefore think it necessary to take advantage of the present Opportunity (when the French are obliged by the Treaties even to assist us) of calling him to account and obliging him to pay what he reasonably ought.

The Committee are at the same time equally sensible with the Nabob how important a Possession the Fort of Veloor would be and if the Conquest could be easily made it would be highly agreable to us, but in the present Critical Situation of Affairs we would rather chuse to accept of the Lack of Pagodas before demanded by the Nabob, together with a reasonable addition in consideration of the

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1756.*—— [26TH.]

Extraordinary Expence and trouble the Killedar has put us to, than risque the Loss of so many Men as the Reduction of the Fort would probably cost if it should prove to be so Strong as Major Kilpatrick seems by his last to imagine.

Agreed to give Major Kilpatrick Directions conformable to the above Debate leaving it to him to accept the Killedars Submission, or attempt the Conquest of the Fort according as he may find the Undertaking more or less difficult

And as to the other Proposals of the Nabob concerning Arioloor, Worriarpollam and Tinnevelly, the Execution of them must depend on the Advices we may receive from Europe.

The President will write to the Nabob on the foregoing Subjects and also to desire his Opinion of an Offer made by Tetarapah Modelair to rent the Tinnevelly Country at the rate of twelve Lacks of Rupees a year on Shroffs Security.

The following Letter from John Smith Esqr. at Devecotah read.

TO THE GENTLEMEN OF THE SECRET COMMITTEE
AT FORT ST. GEORGE.

Gentlemen

I have received the favour of your Letter dated the 13th Instant and agreable to your Orders Demanded of Captain Spear the six hundred Rupees which he had receiv'd from the Subedars; Enclosed is his Answer concerning that Affair, but I must beg leave myself to relate the Circumstance as it has been represented to me.

On my communicating to him the purport of your Letter he said it was usual for the Subedars to make Presents to the Commanding Officer, and desir'd that they might be call'd upon in his presence and ask'd if they had not of their own accord given him that Sum as a present. They denied it and said that Comrapah told them they must make up a Sum and give Captn. Spear, which they did by taking Entrance Money from the Jemidars &c^a. and paid two hundred and Nine Pagodas into Comrapah's hands.

Comrapah being then call'd upon said that the Subedars desired him to procure as many Officers to be made over the Seapoys as they had in Camp which Comrapah acquainted Captain Spear with who ask'd him what he should get by it and was answer'd it would be three or four hundred Rupees, However after some Discourse the Affair was made up for five hundred Rupees and afterwards by Captn. Spear's Servant brought to Six hundred, and Comrapah on that account says he paid Captn. Spear one hundred and Sixty Pagodas.

Tho it may be some Excuse to Captn. Spear that it was the Custom before he came yet I cannot help remarking the ill consequence of such Proceeding, for by the above it appears that Comrapah receiv'd 209 Pagodas and only paid 160. If these Actions are tolerated by an Officer, what Lattitude does it not give to the Coney-coplies to plunder; for under the Sanction of receiving one Pagoda for the Officer they may take two for themselves and dismiss and make Seapoy Officers for the Sake of Entrance Money which besides the fraud is a discouragement to the Service.

On M^r. Hopkins's first Arrival the Seapoys were paid by him once and by M^r. Brickendon once, Since that time Comrapah has had the Sole Payment of them without the least Controul. To this neglect may in some measure be attributed the abuses that have crept into so material a Branch of the Company's Expence.

It gives me the greatest Satisfaction that my Actions hitherto meet your approbation, In my future Conduct I hope you will have no cause to change that Opinion of me. I am with respect Gentlemen Your most Obed^t. and most humble Servant

Deve Cotah
the 21 Janry 1756. JOHN SMITH.

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[26th.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1756.*——

To JOHN SMITH Esq^R.

Sir

You was pleased to inform me that an Order from the Governor and Council requir'd me to return 600 Rupees, I receiv'd as a present from the Subedar, which I am ready to do; but at the same time am willing to testify upon oath that I never knew of it's being collected by any unjustifiable means, nor never gave any Orders for such a Sum or any to be brought or stop'd on my account, but receiv'd it absolutely as a present, and a Voluntary act of the Subedars sent me by the hands of Comrapah the Companies Coneycoply who informed me at the same time it was a customary thing before I came I am Sir Your most Obedient humble Servant

Deve Cotah
January 19, 1756. JA^S SPEAR.

Order'd that the same Regulations regarding Seapoy's Pay be sent to Deve Cotah, as were sent the 23^d. Instant to Fort St. David pursuant to a Resolution of last Committee.

And As from the account M^r. Smith gives of Captain Spears's Behaviour in the Affair of the Six hundred Rupees mention'd in Committee the 12th we apprehend it will be necessary to have him tried by a General Court Martial it is Agreed to write M^r. Smith to take the Deposition of the Dubash Comrapah and any other Person whose Evidence will tend to bring the truth to light; and also to enquire by whose Direction new Seapoy Officers were made, and new Men enlisted after the Receipt of our Orders to the Contrary.

This Instant came in the following Letter from Major James Kilpatrick.

To THE HONBLE GEORGE PIGOT Esq^R.
PRESIDENT & GOVERNOR &C^A. COMMITTEE AT FORT ST. GEORGE.

Honble Sir & Sirs

In consequence of what I wrote M^r. Pigot in answer to his Letter of the 18 Inst^. as I was not honor'd with any Instructions since, I march'd the Army back near Arcot on the Veloor Road, and waited on the Nabob to whom I had before communicated your Intentions, He is under many apprehensions about the Killedar of Veloor, and gives it me as his Opinion that any Preparations for beseiging that Place, without an actual Intention to reduce it cannot fail of being attended with with the utmost ill consequences to the Affairs of this Province, as he has it so much in his power while in possession of that Place, and such immense Riches to influence many of the Country Powers in his Interest which may involve this Country in a Scene of trouble. The Nabob has already made all the Overtures he could possibly condescend to, to induce him to settle his Accounts and tho he has not retracted from the Sum he first offer'd, he requires so many Deductions for Money paid different Persons during the late troubles, that the remaining Sum amounts to a meer trifle, and even in consideration of that he expects such Conditions from the Nabob as will effectually tie up his hands in future from acting against him, on these Considerations He thinks it much more his Interest to maintain an appearance of friendship for the present than to exasperate him by any seeming preparations, as no medium can be observed, He must either be put in possession of the place or made his friend, I thought it necessary to inform you of this, as it is the Sense of the Nabob's Opinion on this Subject, and from what I have heard I concur with him that without a sufficient Force and proper Stores and Materials for carrying on the Seige are actually determined on any other preparations we can make will not produce the Effect you would wish and desire, He still continues obstinate and has not sent any body near the Nabob since our Return and by intelligence from thence as soon he heard of the

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1756.*—— [26th.]

Army's marching back, he beat the Tom Toms thro the Town and turn'd out all the poor Inhabitants, they are in great confusion and many of the Principal Merchants preparing to quit the Place.

In my Letter to Mr. Pigot I mention'd the additional Force of 500 Europeans 1,500 Seapoys and 2 24-pounders, which I think absolutely necessary for the undertaking from the best accounts I can get of the Strength of the Place and as I am of Opinion an Engineer will be much wanted for directing the Approaches he will be the properest Person to lay before you an Indent of Stores necessary for the undertaking, what Scaling Ladders will be wanted can be got ready in Camp.

Captain Howes with the Grenadier Company join'd the Army this day.

As these Country People dread nothing more than a Bombardment, and the Buildings in their Forts generally so crowded, two Eight Inch Mortars would be of infinite Service in reducing the place. I am with the greatest Respect Honble Sir & Sirs Your most Obedient & most humble Servant

Camp near Arcot
24 Janry 1756. JAS. KILPATRICK.

The greatest Part of the Subject of this Letter has been already Discuss'd in the beginning of the Committee. Agreed to supply Major Kilpatrick immediately with two Mortars according to his Desire. We have already sent him all the Force we can conveniently Spare and as to an Engineer Lieutenant Hume who is in Camp will be able to assist him in that way if it should be necessary. Order'd that Major Kilpatrick be advised accordingly.

Letter from Colonel Adlercron dated the 21st Instant N°. 7 read in answer to ours of the 13th. on the Subject of the Order publish'd by him the 3d. Instant in the town of Cuddalore.

This Matter having been already Debated in Committee, the 12th. and 23d. Instant and further Consideration being now had on every Article of Colonel Adlercron's Letter the Draft of an Answer is immediately form'd at the Board, read and Approved

The said Answer will be enter'd in the Book of Correspondence with Col. Adlercron N°. 8.

GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
A. WYNCH.
WILLM PERCEVAL.
ROBT. PALK.

Dispatch'd to Colonel Adlercron the Letter wrote him in Committee this morning as enter'd N°. 8.

Also Sent the following Letters to John Smith Esqr. and Major James Kilpatrick pursuant to the Resolutions of the said Committee.

To JOHN SMITH ESQR.

Sir

We have receiv'd your Letter of the 21st. Your Information concerning the Affair of Captain Spears is very proper and Circumstantial and your Remarks very just; As we believe it will be necessary to lay it before a General Court Martial, we desire you will take a formal Deposition from Comrapah and any others whose Evidence you judge will help to bring the Truth to light.

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[26th.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1756.*——

You will please also to enquire by whose Orders new Sepoy Officers were made and new Men enlisted after the Receipt of our Orders to the contrary.

And for the future Regulation of the Sepoys Pay we desire you will acquaint all the Coneycoplies of the Seapoy Companies they are immediately under your Direction, that they are to bring you a daily report of all Casualties, from which Reports the Payrolls will be regulated and then let them be paid every Man by the hand of the Company's Servant you shall appoint to that Business.

Order the Coneycoplies to make out Rolls of the Companies, placing the Officers according to Rank and Seniority, and when any Vacancy of an Officer happens advise Mr. Starke who has a few Supernumerarys to provide for. After they are so provided for let the next in Rank in the same Company always Succeed to the Vacancy, unless upon Enquiry from the Officer of the Garrison or the Subedar of the Company you shall discover a material Objection against such Person, The appointments are to be made only by you, and always on the first day of the next Month after the Vacancy happens. We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants GEORGE PIGOT—STRINGER LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY—ROBERT ORME—ALEXANDER WYNCH —WILLM PERCEVAL—ROBERT PALK.

Fort St. George
26 Janry. 1756.

To MAJOR JAMES KILPATRICK.

Sir

Since we wrote the 24th. we have discoursed with Mr. Perceval and learnt from him that the Nabob is desirous of taking the Fort of Veloor at all Events and not to accept of any Submissions from the Killedar. We are as sensible as the Nabob of the Importance of such a Possession but in the present very critical Situation of Affairs we had rather see the Affair finish'd upon reasonable terms than run the Risque of losing any of our Men by carrying things to Extremity. We think however that besides the Lack of Pagodas formerly talk'd of, an additional Demand should be made in proportion to the Trouble and Expence he puts us to, and we leave this to be adjusted by the Nabob and you.

If therefore the Killedar should be brought to pay or give good Security for such a Sum & additional Demand as is abovemention'd, promise to be constantly faithful to the Nabob and a firm Friend to the English, You will then forbear further Hostilities against Veloor and having settled the Affair proceed upon the Reduction of Ellavanasoor, but after all should Murtaz ally Cawn delay an Accommodation, the conquest of Veloor appear to be attended with less Difficulty than you now apprehend We are inclinable to think it would be most for the Nabob's Interest and in such Case we leave it entirely to his and your Determination.

Since writing the above we have receiv'd your Letter of the 24th, by which we are surpriz'd to find that ours of the 20th. had not then reached you. From Murtaz ally Cawns readiness at all times to join our Enemy we have no friendship to hope from him any longer than it is his own Interest; and ours and the Nabob's Affairs require that he should contribute to support the Common Expences. By the Treaties we have made He is immediately in the Dependence of the Nabob, and it is our Duty to see that he does him Justice. The Articles of the Truce oblige the French to assist us so, that we have nothing to fear from that Quarter, we think therefore we ought to take Advantage of the present Opportunity and we have no reason to doubt but upon your Approach he will make very different Proposals from those you have yet receiv'd from him. As to additional Force we have already sent you Captain Howes and Captn. Campbell some Seapoys and a Reinforcement from Changleput and likewise empower'd you to take what force can be Spar'd from Arcot, more we would send you if We could conveniently. Mr. Hume who is in Camp will be able

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1756.*—— [26TH.]

to assist you as an Engineer, and we have no doubt of his readiness to act upon your appointment you may assure him that we shall not fail to consider his Services. Two Mortars shall be sent you to-morrow. We are Sir Your most Obedient Servts. GEO. PIGOT—STRINGER LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY—ROBERT ORME—ALEXANDER WYNCH—WILLM. PERCEVAL—ROBERT PALK.

Fort St. George
26 Jany 1756.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

GEORGE PIGOT ESQR.	GOVERNOR	PRESIDENT
STRINGER LAWRENCE	HENRY	POWNEY
ROBERT ORME	ALEXR.	WYNCH
WILLIAM PERCEVAL	ROBERT	PALK.

THURSDAY THE 29TH.

Since last meeting receiv'd the following Letters from Major Kilpatrick.

TO THE HONORABLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQR.
PRESIDENT & GOVERNOR &CA. GENTLEMEN OF
THE COMMITTEE AT FORT ST. GEORGE.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs.

I am only this Instant honor'd with your Letter of the 20th Instant, I impute the delay to its being given one of the Nabob's Hircaras which should be glad in future you would never trust with any for me as they usually take much longer time than those belonging to the Company.

In consequence of your Instructions I would have proceeded to morrow near Veloor, but am obliged to wait for the Jageers and Lists of Territories which the Nabob is to give me, the Day after I shall certainly march and make the necessary preparations for the Seige of the Place, in case the Killedar should refuse to come to reasonable Terms, as the Governor could not have receiv'd my Letter of the 20th. when this came away I refer you to that and my other to the Committee of last Night for the additional force necessary for the reduction of the Place, I am still of Opinion from the Informations I receive that no less than I mention'd can have the desir'd Effect, the Place is well fortified, has a very strong Wall and exceeding good Ditch, it will require a great Number of heavy Shott to make a practicable Breach, and without many more Europeans, the Duty will be too hard on those already here as the fatigues of the Seige will chiefly fall on them.

I shall forward the President's Letter and write to the Inhabitants as you desire, the one to Mr. Perceval I shall keep here 'till I know who you are pleased to entrust with his Instructions, and should I receive no information from you before terms are proposed by Murtaz ally Cawn, shall open it, and take care your intentions be implicitly Obey'd.

Eleven Men of Captain Schaub's Company from Changleput join'd the Army yesterday.

I am with the greatest Respect Hon'ble Sir & Sirs Your most Obed & most hñble Servt.

Camp near Arcot
25 Jañry 1756. JAMES KILPATRICK.

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[29th.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1756.*——

To the Honble George Pigot Esqr.
President and Governor &c.a Committee
at Fort St. George.

Honble Sir & Sirs

Last night and this morning I was a considerable time with the Nabob, in relation to the Killedar of Veloor's Affairs and am only this Instant return'd from him, a Vackeel is come in and made proposals of an Accomodation, which were explain'd to me but as I did not think them so advantageous as might be expected, I have desir'd the Nabob to defer concluding any Treaty 'till he has laid them before you, which he informs me he does very particularly by this Hircarah.

He is not desirous of entering into any new Agreement with this Man, but to let things remain as they now are, at the same time says, if we do insist on Terms we must accept of these Offer'd, demand no others, I endeavour'd (tho without Success) to persuade him the march of the Army into the Veloor Country would produce a good Effect and much better Terms, and that I had come to a Resolution to march this Day, and had acquainted you with my Intentions, I therefore desired he would write Letters to the Jageers and Inhabitants not to suffer any of the Grain to be carried away. In answer he plainly told me before Captain Lee, the Veloor Subedar and Dubashes he could not write them or have any concern in an Expedition against the Place till he heard further from you, that if I marched it was without his assistance or consent, and he would have no hand in it, he also inform'd me he gave a Copy of these present Articles to Mr. Perceval some time ago which have been in agitation ever since and a reason why he could not demand any other now.

Thô the Nabob will lay before you, Copys of the mutual Agreements requir'd to be enter'd into between them I thought proper to send you an Account of the Moneys propos'd to be paid in consequence of an Accommodation which he informs me is as follows that the whole Sum is one Lack of Sautolackany Madras Pagodas, forty nine thousand Rupees of which is to be paid in ready Money forty nine thousand four hundred in Soucar's Bills, Twenty Six thousand six hundred to be paid by the Nabob's Killedars near Arcot, Money advanced them by Murtiz ally Cawn at the desire of Abdul Bob Cawn, the Residue to be paid by Orders on the Jagueers and Territories near Nelour, due by the Vangool Man to the Killedar of Veloor who will deliver over Bills for it.

You must be very sensible Gentlemen an Affair of this consequence must make me very uneasy for as your Letters desire me to advise and consult with the Nabob it was not in my power to act contrary to his Sentiments and Declarations, I was therefore obliged to defer the March of the Army 'till I have your full Instructions on this head, which I shall most impatiently expect; I have open'd your Letter to Mr. Perceval and deliver'd the Nabob's; I shall use my endeavours to get Bommerauze's Affair Settled. I am with the greatest Respect Hon'ble Sir & Sirs Your most Obedt. and most humble Servt.

Camp near Arcot,
January 27, 1756.

Jas. Kilpatrick.

To the Honble George Pigot Esqr.
President & Governor &c.a Committee of Correspondence.
Hon'ble Sir & Sirs

I am honor'd with your Letters of the 24th and 26 Instt. and about two hours ago wrote you my Reasons why I could not march this day as I first intended nearer Veloor, since which I have been again with the Nabob and with difficulty persuaded him to write to the Jagueers and Inhabitants which he promises to do to-morrow, and give us all the Assistance he can towards the Reduction of the Place, I have dispatch'd a Hircarah to stop my former Letter which should he do will write you the Substance of it tomorrow when I shall certainly begin my March.

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——*FORT ST GEORGE, JANUARY 1756.*—— [29mo.]

There is only one Eighteen Pounder return'd serviceable in Arcot, and not more than 450 Shott and we have only 300 in Camp, all the Intelligence I get of the Place agree the Walls are very strong and built of large Stone, in which Case I am apprehensive heavier Metal and more Shot for those already here will be absolutely necessary.

The Garrison of Arcot can furnish no Seapoys, we have receiv'd from thence 50 Europeans and shall leave upwards of Twenty Sick in the Fort.

I have this night dispatch'd away the President's Letter to Murtaz ally Cawn. I am with the greatest Respect Hoñble Sir & Sirs Your most Obedient and most humble Servant

Camp near Arcot.
January 27th. JAMES KILPATRICK.

The Committee are Surprized to find by Major Kilpatrick's foregoing Letters, that the Nabob is averse to the calling upon Murtaz ally Cawn for the Tribute Due and are at a Loss to imagine what his Objections can be unless that he has already accommodated with that Killedar, and receiv'd a Sum of Money without our Knowledge, Be this as it will it is unanimously Resolv'd to prosecute our Designs against Veloor if the Killedar should not consent to accommodate on reasonable Terms and if the Nabob should not concur in promoting these Measures, that it be left to Major Kilpatrick to do the most he can for the Company's Interest.

But as the Expences of the Expedition will run extremely high if we should be obliged to proceed to the Extremities of a Seige the Sum to be paid by the Killedar must be increas'd in proportion and it is Agreed to write Major Kilpatrick that in such case he must demand at least three Lack of Pagodas for an Accommodation, that he is however to be govern'd in great measure by Circumstances, as we are not yet able to judge how far the Reduction of the Fort may be found practicable.

The President lays before the Committee the following Intelligence receiv'd this morning from Richard Starke Esqr.

To THE HONBLE GEORGE PIGOT Esqr.

Hoñble Sir

A few days since arriv'd at Pondichery a Ship from France with about 60 Recruits several Chests of Treasure a Quantity of Stores & Monsr. Dauteil Lieutent. Colonel of Horse, She brings no particular Advices from Europe.

Inclos'd is Copy of a Letter received this day from one of his Britannick Majesty's Officers now at Pondichery. I am with respect Honorable Sir Your most Obedt. ñble Servant

Fort St. David,
26 January 1756. RICHARD STARKE.

Copy of a letter from an Officer in his Britannick Majesty's Service now at Pondichery.

Every thing here has the appearance of taking the Field very soon, & as far as I can learn Mr. Saubinett is to Command. Their first Encampment is to be where General Boscawen was & there to wait in full Parade for Action. This [is] what is given out, but there seems to be too much Business and too much Shyness, which in my Opinion indicate something of a Secret among them. I am positively inform'd that they are intended for Action as soon as they take the Field

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[1756.] —— *FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1756.* ——

The Committee not seeing to which Side the French can turn their Arms if they really have a Design of proceeding to Hostilities; do not think it necessary to come to any Resolution on that Subject, untill Information is receiv'd of their actual Motion.

GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
A^R. WYNCH.
WILL^M. PERCEVAL.
ROB^T. PALK.

Sent the following Letter to Major James Kilpatrick pursuant to the Resolutions of the foregoing Committee.

To MAJOR JAMES KILPATRICK.

Sir

No. 1. We have receiv'd your three Letters one dated the 25th. and two the 27th. Instant. We are astonish'd at the Nabob's Management which is quite a Mystery to us, unless that he has already enter'd into some Private accommodation with Murtaz ally Cawn, but should this be the Case it will have no Weight with us and we depend upon you to carry the Intentions of our last Letters into Execution in the best manner you are able. You will still consult with the Nabob, but if contrary to our Expectations he should not join with you in promoting your Designs we rely on your Conduct and Discretion to do the most you can for the Company's Interest.

We had only one eight Inch Mortar fit for Service which was sent out to day, you may apply to Captain Maskelyne for whatever can be spared from Arcot and should you be obliged to proceed to Extremities and find the Guns and Stores you have not sufficient Send us in Bullocks and Cooleys to carry you what may be further wanted, as we find it impossible to procure the necessaries for transporting them here.

In this case nothing but a very large Sum can compensate for the Expences of the Expedition and therefore tell the Nabob three Lack of Pagodas altogether is the least he should then Demand for an Accommodation but in this you must be govern'd in great measure by the Circumstances that may happen.

You will write to us often and we shall send you our Directions as frequently as we receive any fresh Information. Our last Letter was dated the 26th. we shall hereafter number all our Letters and desire you will do the same. We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants GEO. PIGOT--STRING^R LAWRENCE--HEN^Y. POWNEY—ROB^T. ORME—ALEXANDER WYNCH—WILL^M.-PERCEVAL—ROBERT PALK.

Fort S^t. George.
29 January 1756.

SATURDAY THE 31 JANUARY.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

GEORGE PIGOT ESQ^R GOVERNOR PRESIDENT
STRINGER LAWRENCE — HENRY POWNEY
ROBERT ORME — ALEXANDER WYNCH
WILLIAM PERCEVAL — ROBERT PALK

The following Letter from Richard Starke Esqr. read.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1756.*—— [31st.]

To the Hon'ble the President and Governor
& the Gentlemen for conducting Country Affairs.

Hon'ble Sir & Sirs

I have receiv'd your favor of the 23d Inst. inclosing a Letter for Colonel Adlercron which after perusal I seal'd and deliver'd.

Captain Pascal by my Order wrote the Commandant at Pondichery some days since and Demanded the ten Swiss who deserted the 3d Instant from Cuddalore and are there, As yet he has receiv'd no Answer from him; the Reason of which I suspect to be this; That Colonel Adlercron (as I have been just now inform'd) acquainted the said Commandant He was the Person to transact all Affairs of that Nature and expected to be wrote to on those Occasions.

The Supernumerary Subedar shall be sent to Fort St. George, and all Orders transmitted in your favour of the 23d shall be duely complied with.

I receiv'd Intelligence a few days since that the French had began some Works at Villenoor, upon which I immediately sent People to reconnoitre, but the Account they brought me was so imperfect that I did not chuse to mention it to the President till I had got a better, for the obtaining which I have now sent other Persons more skilful and hope shortly to acquaint you with the Nature of them I am with respect, Honorable Sir & Sirs

Your most Obedient humble Servant.

Rich. Starke.

Fort St. David
[27th] January 1756.

Agreed that a Representation be immediately made to Mr. DeLeyrit on the Subject of the ten Swiss who deserted from Cuddalore the 3d. Instant, and who Mr. Starke advises are at Pondichery; setting forth that the punctual Notice we have given him of the Arrival of every Deserter from his Nation will be a Proof of our having conform'd exactly on our part to the Stipulations of the Treaty of Cartel. demanding that the ten Men be sent immediately to Fort St. David, and desiring he will acquaint us with his Reasons for not observing the Articles of that Treaty.

The Committee however cannot imagine that those Reasons are what is mention'd in Mr. Starke's above Letter "That Colonel Adlercron acquainted the Commandant at "Pondichery he was the Person to transact all Affairs of that Nature, and expected "to be wrote to on those Occasions". For Colonel Adlercron has certainly more prudence than to make known the Disputes which have unfortunately arisen between us to our Publick Enemies.

The President lays before the Committee [a] Letter he receiv'd this Day from Colonel Adlercron as enter['d] No. 9 inclosing a Letter address'd to him (Colonel Adlercron) by Captain Schaub in consequence of our applying for a General Court Martial to try him for Disrespect and Neglect of Duty on the Occasions mention'd in Committee the 23d of this Month.

The following is Copy of Captain Schaub's Letter.

To John Adlercron Esq.
Colonel in his Britannick Majesty's Service and Commander in Chief of the Troops of the English East India Company.

Sir

As I flatter'd myself that the Gentlemen of Madras would have interceded with Mr. Starke to accept of the Apology I was desirous of making him, I was unwilling to trouble you with any Representations, but as I now find they seem resolv'd to push Matters to Extremity I take the Liberty to inform you Sir that by the Priviledges of our Nation, our Trials are to be within ourselves & the Directors wrote to their

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[31st.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1756.*——

Council here to allow us the Same Rights as we had in the Service of the Europeans Powers, which Letter was receiv'd in the Year 1753, a Copy of which I beg you will be pleased to demand of the Council of Fort St. George.

However if you'll be pleased Sir to grant me a Court Martial consisting only of his Majesty's Officers, I am ready to submit thereto as I shall make no Difficulty of waving my Priviledges in Obedience to you but cannot in Justice to my Nation yield any thing to the Company's Servants here, especially when in contradiction to the Directions they have receiv'd from their Masters and mine I have the honor to be with the greatest Respect and Duty, Sir Your most Obedient humble Servant

Cuddalore
28 Janry 1756. J. Schaub.

The Committee submit to the Consideration of the Hoñble the Court of Directors the Prejudice that must inevitably accrue to their Service if we are Subjected to be treated with so little respect by their own Officers & with regard to the Priviledges claim'd by Captn. Schaub Reference being had to the 100 Paragraph of our Hoñble Master's Letter dated 24th. Janry 1753 and it appearing thereby to be their Pleasure that the Swiss should be try'd by their own Laws & conformably their own Customs in Europe, the Committee can have no Objection to Captn. Schaub's being proceeded against in that manner & the President is therefore desir'd to Send Colonel Adlercron a Copy of the said Paragraph and to request of him to Order Capt. Schaub up hither, where Captn. Polier, Captn. Gauppe & one of the Lieutenants shall be assembled to sit on him three Officers being it seems Sufficient among them to compose a Court.

George Pigot.
Stringer Lawrence.
Henry Powney.
Robert Orme.
Aa. Wynch.
Willm. Perceval.
Robt. Palk.

Sent a letter from the President to Mr. De Leyrit of this date (as enter'd in the French Correspondence No. 9) pursuant to the Resolutions of the foregoing Committee.

31st. Janry 6 P.M. The President receiv'd a Letter from Mr. De Leyrit dated the 27 as enter'd No. 10 Declaring that he shall be oblig'd to oppose any Progress of our Troops against Murtaz ally Cawn (Killedar of Veloor) or any Prince of the Country Ally or other.

At the same time the President receiv'd Intelligence from Richard Starke Esqr. that three hundred Soldiers, three hundred Seapoys, four Cannon and two Field Pieces were sent from Pondicherry to Latchemanaigue's Choultry near Villenoor.

Saturday 31st. Janry 7 P.M.

At a Committee

Present

George Pigot Esqa. Governor President
Stringer Lawrence — Henry Powney
Robert Orme — Alexander Wynch
William Perceval — Robert Palk.

The President acquaints the Committee that he has call'd them together at this time purposely to lay before them the abovemention'd Letters from Mr. De Leyrit and Mr. Starke which require a speedy & Serious Consideration.

When the Committee reflect on the Transactions of the French Since the Truce, their marching a Body of Troops into the Mysore Country and exacting a large Tribute from the King, their dispossessing the Toriour Pollygar, because he had fail'd to pay the usual Tribute and putting another in his place.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1756.*—— [31=]

They can with difficulty imagine that Mr. De Leyrit unless he has receiv'd Orders from Europe to recommence the War, really intends to oppose the just Demand we are making of the Tribute due from Murtaz ally Cawn to the Nabob, whom he acknowledged to be the lawful Subah of the Province at the time of the Conclusion of the Truce & Since, and to whom beyond doubt he owes the same Tribute as he usually paid to the former Subahs of Arcot.

But as Mr. Starke's Advices of a Body of French Troops having taken the Field are certain and positive it is necessary for us to be upon our Guard and Resolv'd immediately to communicate this Intelligence to Major Kilpatrick directing him to remain in the Prosecution of our former Orders regarding the Killedar of Velour, unless he should receive News that a Party of French is in actual March and approaches towards him, in which case, as it will be impossible to carry on the Seige, and watch their Motions at the same time, He is to return his heavy Cannon to Arcot, march to meet the French Troops, Summon the Commanding Officer to retire out of the Nabob's Districts and if instead of paying regard to such Summons he should proceed to the Relief of Veloor or commit any Ravages, that then he (Major Kilpatrick) protest against the French Officer as the Violator of the Truce and oppose his Motions, if upon a Review of the Force on both Sides he shall think it prudent.

Agreed likewise that a Copy of Mr. De Leyrit's Letter and of our Orders to Major Kilpatrick be transmitted to Colonel Adlercron with a Letter recommending to him to hold his Majesty's Troops in readiness to take the Field—That Directions be Sent Mr. Starke to prepare the necessary Bullocks and Stores for that purpose with all possible Expedition, and that Captains Maskelyne and Polier commanding at Arcot and Changleput be advis'd of these Motions of the French, desir'd to be upon their Guard, and to transmit continually to Major Kilpatrick and to us the Intelligence they may receive.

Resolv'd further that Mr. Smith be directed to send four Companies of Seapoys from Deve Cotah to be in readiness to take the Field with the King's Regiment and that Mr. Starke do also join as many Men from the Garrisons of Fort St. David and Cuddalore as Colonel Adlercron and He shall judge it prudent to draw off.

In answer to Mr. De Leyrit it is Agreed to write the Substance of the Arguments contain'd in the Second and third Paragraphs of these Minutes, that we therefore look upon our Right to call on the Killedar of Veloor for his Tribute, as indisputable; that any Opposition on his part will be an infringement of the Truce—That our Troops will in such case be obliged to defend themselves and the Countries under our Management, and we Declare him answerable for all the bad Consequences.

Captain Maskelyne writes that Major Kilpatrick's March to Arnee alarm'd the Killedar of Chetteput so much that he loaded all his Guns & Ginjalls; and that it is reported the said Killedar apprehending the Nabob intends to put another Man into the Fort has sollicited the French Commandant at Gingee to take it back again as their own.

Altho' we do not imagine the Killedar of Chetteput would willingly put either the French or the English in Possession of his Fort it is thought best to maintain a shew of Friendship with him untill an Opportunity may offer of reducing him to the Nabob's Obedience and Agreed to recommend to Major Kilpatrick to write to him as well as to all others who are not declar'd Enemies, to prevent their being alarm'd when the Army comes near their Districts.

GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
AR. WYNCH.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.
ROBT. PALK.

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[31st.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JANUARY 1756.*——

At 11 P.M. Dispatch'd to Major Kilpatrick the Instructions agreed on last Committee as follow

To MAJOR JAMES KILPATRICK.

No. 2. Sir

The President this day receiv'd a Letter from the Governor of Pondichery dated the 27 of much the same Tenor as what he formerly wrote when you was marching into the Polygars Countries setting forth that he should be obliged to oppose any Attempt of our Troops against Veloor or other Place in the Province.

And Mr. Starke writes us under the same Date that he has Intelligence that three hundred Soldiers three hundred Seapoys, four Cannon and two field Pieces were sent from Pondichery to Latchiminaigues Choultry near Villanour.

We know not how far Mr. DeLeyrit's Intentions may be real but we think it necessary to give you our Directions on the Occasion.

You will keep trusty Hircaras upon the Roads to bring you Intelligence if the French should move. In the mean time proceed according to our former Instructions if any tolerable Offers should be made you by the Killedar accept them, if not go on with your Operations against him.

But if you should get Intelligence that the French are in actual March and approach towards you you must quit for the present your Designs upon the Fort return your heavy Cannon to Arcot in the best manner you can and upon Intelligence of their Strength march to face their Troops, demand of the Commanding Officer his Reasons for appearing in Arms in the Nabob's Country represent to him that such a Conduct is a Breach of the Truce & Sommon him to retire, declaring to him otherwise that he is answerable for the Consequences and that you shall be obliged to act against him.

Should they notwithstanding this proceed to Protect Veloor or commit any Ravages in the Countries under the Nabob's or our Management you are then to oppose them, if upon a Review of their Force you think it prudent.

We hear the Killedar of Chetteput has been alarm'd at your Motions, we desire you will write to him and so to all the Nabob's Friends when you come near any of their Districts to prevent their being Alarm'd.

This is what occurs to us at present but you must be guided according to Circumstances and the Intelligence you may receive. We are persuaded that you will act in the manner which appears to you to be the best.

We have directed Captn. Maskelyne to keep Hircaras abroad and send you constantly the Intelligence he may receive We are Sir Your most Obedt. Servants GEO. PIGOT—STRINGER LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY—ROBERT ORME—ALEXR. WYNCH —WILLM. PERCEVAL—ROBERT PALK.

Fort St. George.
31 Jany 1756.

FEBRUARY 1st. Pursuant to the Resolutions of the foregoing Committee Dispatch'd to Colonel Adlercron a Letter of this date as Enter'd in the Book of Correspondence No. 11.

To Mr. De Leyrit a Letter of this date as Enter'd in the French Correspondence No. 11.

And the following Letters to Richard Starke Esqr. and John Smith Esqr.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1756.*—— [1ST.]

To RICHARD STARKE Esq^R.
DEPUTY GOVERNOR OF FORT ST. DAVID.

Sir

We have receiv'd your Letter of the 27th. the President has wrote to Mr. De Leyrit demanding the ten Deserters in consequence of the Cartel. Yow will hereafter please to make Application yourself to the French Governor when any Men desert to Pondichery and are not immediately return'd.

Upon your Intelligence of the Motions of the French we think it necessary his Majesty's Troops should be held in readiness to take the Field. We have wrote accordingly to Coll. Adlercron transmitting him Copy of Mr. De Leyrit's Letter, our answer and our Directions to Major Kilpatrick. We send herewith the whole under cover to you. Please to peruse them and send them immediately to Colonel Adlercron. It might be proper indeed for you to go yourself and have a conference with him on this Occasion.

In consequence of what we have wrote to Coll. Adlercron we desire you will immediately get together all the Draft and Carriage Bullocks you possibly can, prepare the necessary Stores for the King's Troops to march, Advise Coll. Adlercron continually of the Intelligence you receive and join to him as many Military and Sepoys as you and he shall think it prudent to draw from Fort St. David and Cuddalore.

We have directed Mr. Smith to send four Companies of Sepoys from Deve Cotah advising Coll. Adlercron and you of their March; On their Arrival you will dispose of them as Colonel Adlercron shall Desire.

You will borrow all the Bullocks you possibly can and purchase the rest, putting them under the Care of Mr. Call who will receive Directions from the Contractors on the Subject; We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants GEORGE PIGOT &C^A. COMMITTEE.

Fort St. George
1st. Febry 1756.

To JOHN SMITH Esq^R.

Sir

Immediately on the receipt of this you will please to Detach four compleat Companies of Sepoys to Fort St David advising Colonel Adlercron and Mr. Starke of their March. We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants GEO. PIGOT—STRING^R. LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNY—ROB^T. ORME—ALEX^R. WYNCH—WILL^M. PERCEVAL—ROB^T. PALK.

Fort St. George
1st. Febry 1756.

AT A COMMITTEE

SUNDAY THE 1 FEBRUARY.

Present

GEORGE PIGOT Esq^R GOVERNOR PRESIDENT
STRINGER LAWRENCE HENRY POWNEY
ROBERT ORME ALEX^R. WYNCH
WILLIAM PERCEVAL. ...
M^R. PALK, *at Church.*

The President lays before the Committee the following Letter receiv'd this morning from Mr. Starke, with a Paper of News from Pondichery.

To THE HON'BLE GEORGE PIGOT.

Honble Sir

I have been favor'd with the Committee's Letter dated the 26th. Instant to Colonel Adlercron, which after perusal I seal'd and Deliver'd.

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[1em.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1756.*——

Inclos'd is a Paper of Advice from Pondichery. I am with Respect Hoñble Sir Your most Obed$^{t.}$ Servant

Fort S$^{t.}$ David
29 Jañry 1756.

RICHARD STARKE.

News from Pondichery ... ... 29 January 1756.

Last Night a Detachment of the French consisting of 700 Soldiers 800 Seapoys 4 Guns 2 Tumbrils and a large quantity of Ammunition and Provisions were sent to Trivicara from Latchimynaik's Choultry near Villanoore. The said Detachment marched this morning from Trivacara to Chingee by the way of Vicravandy. It is reported they are Order'd for Veloor. About 1,000 Cowes and Oxen are brought to Villanoor.

Agreed that the above Intelligence be transmitted immediately to Major Kilpatrick & that he be directed to advise Colonel Adlercron of his own and the Enemy's Motions as often as any thing Material happens.

Agreed also that a Reinforcement of fifty Men being all we can Spare from hence do march as soon as possible for Camp under the Command of Lieu$^{t.}$ Frazer, Halting at Arcot for Orders from Major Kilpatrick.

Three Letters from Murtaz ally Cawn Killedar of Veloor as enter'd in the Country Correspondence Nos. 18. 19. & 20. Read setting forth that although by the Agreement concluded by the Mediation of M$^{r.}$ Saunders, He was not obliged to pay any thing, yet in order to preserve the Nabob's and our favour he consented to give a Bill; desiring the President will hear what his Vackeel has to say and Order Major Kilpatrick to cease Hostilities untill the Negociation is ended.

The Agreement quoted by Murtaz ally Cawn was maturely consider'd in Committee the 12 November last and for the reasons there given we can by no means look on Murtaz ally Cawn as freed from paying the usual Tribute to the Nabob, and with regard to the Negociations desired the President acquaints the Committee that he did send for the Veloor Vackeel who talk'd of nothing but his Master's Poverty and concluded with saying he might possibly be able to make up the Sum of fifty thousand (50,000) Rupees.

So inconsiderable an Offer can make no Alteration in our Measures as such a Payment would not in any manner answer our Intentions, nor even defray the Extraordinary Expence caused by the March of the Army for Veloor.

GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
A$^{R.}$ WYNCH.
WILL$^{M.}$ PERCEVAL.
ROB$^{T.}$ PALK.

Sent the following Letter to Major Kilpatrick pursuant to the Resolutions of last Committee.

To MAJOR JAMES KILPATRICK.

No. 8. Sir

Since we wrote you last night we have receiv'd Intelligence that the French Party moved the 28th at night from Villenoor to Trivacara and the 29th in the morning from Trivacara to Chingee;

and that it consists of Seven hundred Soldiers Eight hundred Seapoys and four Guns.

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——*FORT S^T GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1756.*—— [1st]

We desire you will advise Colonel Adlercron of your own and the Enemies Motions as often as you may judge necessary. We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants GEORGE PIGOT—STRINGER LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY—ROBERT ORME—ALEX^R. WYNCH—WILL^M. PERCEVAL.

Fort S^t. George
1 Febry 1756.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

GEORGE PIGOT ESQ^R.	GOVERNOR PRESIDENT	TUESDAY THE 3^D.
STRINGER LAWRENCE	HENRY POWNEY	
ROBERT ORME	ALEXANDER WYNCH	
WILLIAM PERCEVAL	ROBERT PALK.	

The following Letter from Major James Kilpatrick, read, with a List of Stores wanting for the Seige of Veloor.

TO THE HON'BLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQ^R.
PRESIDENT & GOVERNOR &C^A., COMMITTEE
OF CORRESPONDENCE AT FORT S^T. GEORGE.

Hon'ble Sir & Sirs

On the 28th Inst^t. I began my March for Veloor and on the 29th having first reconnoitred the Arcot Road; and from all the Intelligence I receiv'd judging it impossible to Attack the Fort on that Quarter with Success as it would have expos'd our Flanks to the continual Fire of two strong Forts situated on high Rocks which entirely commanded that entrance thro' narrow Defiles into the Place, I march'd the Army quite round to the other Side & as by this means our communication with Arcot might be cut off, I halted yesterday about 5 Miles from hence that Captain Campbell with his Detachment and that from Changleput might join me which they did in the Evening.

A Vackeel from the Killedar met me on the road two days ago, I told him my reasons for coming here was to enforce the Payment of a Lack of Pagodas in consequence of an Agreement made between the Nabob and Murtaz ally Cawn which from his late Behaviour we had reason to believe he had no Intention to comply with and that as the Company had been at an additional Expence in sending up so considerable a Force & transporting Stores and heavy Cannon such a Distance, I expected that would also be reimburs'd them, and that the Demand on the whole was Six Lack of Rupees; In answer he said he was not empower'd to treat with me then, but if I would give him leave to go to the Fort he would return to me this morning; On my March here he came a secon'd time, and told me his Master was very much surpriz'd to hear of his making any Agreement for paying such a Sum of Money to the Nabob and assur'd me that he never had made the least Advances towards it, as he had all along trusted to the Cowle granted him by Abdul Bob Cawn, and confirm'd by Governor Saunders, one of the Principal Articles of which is that the Nabob in future shall make no Demands of Money from him, and at the same time deliver'd me a Copy in English of M^r. Saunders's Letter which I have enclosed to you. I told him I was not acquainted with any transaction of that kind, that my Orders from you were either to make him pay the above Demand or act against him. The Vackeel insisted much on the great Dependence his Master had on our Friendship after the Cowle granted him, and that he was very poor, and had not any Money to pay, however he desired I might forbear Hostilities till tomorrow Evening which

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[3rd] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1756.*——

I promis'd him, not out of the least hopes of getting the Money that I might be enabled to reconnoitre the Ground near the Place and chuse what appear'd most advantageous.

The Situation of the Fort is extremely strong our present Camp is not more than Cannon Shot distant, but the roads are so excessive bad that it will be with the utmost difficulty we can approach nearer, all Sides of the Place are encompass'd with Paddy Fields which are laid under Water and every Step up to the Horse's Belly in stiff Clay; by means of this Cessation we have had an Opportunity of reconnoitring very near and find the Walls built after the Country manner with round Towers, also a Fause Bras with some Towers on it and in appearance a tolerable Glacis as not more than half the Wall is seen above it, the Ditch agreable to our Intelligence is very broad and deep, Lieutenants Hume and Godwin are of Opinion that the only practicable part to carry on our Approaches against the Place is on the side of Arnee, in consequence of which I shall be obliged to change our Encampment tomorrow, and make a March of some Miles round on account of the great Swamps near us, they have thought proper to lay before me the inclos'd Indent which they look on as absolutely necessary to give Success to the undertaking.

As I imagine it will be hazardous after Hostilities commence to send up any Stores by the way of Arcot without Escorts, it would be saving our Men a great Deal of fatigue if Captn. Maskeyline could convey them part of the Way, and I to send Detachments to bring them in, as to things of less Consequence I believe they may be safely convey'd by the way of Lalapat. I am with the greatest Respect Honble Sir & Sirs Your most Obedt & most hble Servant

Camp before Velore
31st. Janry 1756.

JAMES KILPATRICK.

P.S. An Artillery Officer will also be wanted.

An Inventory of Stores wanting for the Seige of Veloor 31st January 1756.

24 Pounder Iron Ordnance	Compleat ...	2
Round Shot for Do.		1,000
Grape Do.	...	40
Cartridges	Empty ...	1,040
Powder for Do.	Barrels ...	126
24 Pounder Carriage	Spare ...	1
Planks &c., for 5 Platforms	...	
18 Pounder Round Shot	...	700
Cartridges for Do.	...	700
Powder	Barrels ...	63
18 Pounder Carriage Spare	...	1
Spades	...	100
Shovels	...	100
Pick Axes	...	50
Hand Bills	...	50
Hand Hatchets	...	50
Spike Nails for Platforms ...	Pounds ...	100
Match	Skains ...	80
Coir Rope of 3 Inch	Coils ...	6
Coir Rope of 1½ Inch	Coils ...	6
Tarr	Barrel ...	1
Lanthorns...	...	6
Candles	Maund ...	1
Labaratory Tent	...	1
English Musquet Balls	...	70,000
French Do.	...	20,000

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1756.*—— [3rd]

Carbine Musquet Balls	...	30,000
Paper to make up the above Balls ...	Bales ...	8
Fine Powder	Barrels ...	37
Canvas	Bolts ...	6
Wax Cloth	Pieces ...	10
Bengal Twine	Skains ...	10
Artificers.		
Black Carpenters...	...	7
Lascars	...	100
One European Smith, if to be procured		
Artillery People	..	20

JAs KILPATRICK—BENJAMIN GODWIN—JOHN HUME.

Lieutenant Brooke an Artillery Officer set out some days ago for Camp but it is impossible to send the large Quantity of Stores required for the Seige of Veloor for fear of their being intercepted as we have not a Sufficient Escort to send with them. We judge it also unnecessary for the Present as the Seige cannot be begun untill it is known what turn Affairs will take upon the Motion of the French Troops.

Letter receiv'd this morning from Richd. Starke Esqr., Read.

TO THE HOÑ'BLE THE PRESIDENT & GOVERNOR
& THE GENTLEMEN FOR CONDUCTING COUNTRY AFFAIRS.

Hon'ble Sir & Sirs

Inclos'd are two Estimates I have just now receiv'd from Colonel Adlercron, concerning which you will please to favor me with your Directions.

One of my Hircaras that is come from Arcot acquaints me that he met the French Camp yesterday morning near Chingee, and I have receiv'd Intelligence that 300 Soldiers & 200 Seapoys march'd from Waldoore this morning to join them. It is also said that the French have drawn their Men from all the Out Garrisons and Order'd them to Chingee. I am with respect Hon'ble Sir & Sirs Your most Obedient humble Servant

Fort St. David
31st Jañry 1756.

RICHD. STARKE.

Order'd that the Estimates inclosed in Mr. Starke's Letter be enter'd after these Minutes & that Directions be sent him to comply in general with all Colonel Adlercron's Demands as expeditiously as possible that the Regiment may be prepared to take the Field at a short warning.

At the same time receiv'd the following Advices from Captain Maskelyne.

TO THE HONBLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQR.
PRESIDENT & GOVERNOR OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

Hoñble Sir

I am just inform'd by the Corporal of Chetteput that a Party consisting of 200 Europeans 400 Seapoys and 10 Horse with 4 field Pieces march'd 3 Miles from Gingee yesterday Evening, and the Nabob is advised by 2 Letters from the Killedar of Arinnee pass'd his Fort at 4 this afternoon striking into the Veloor road to the relief of that Place.

On this Intelligence which is not to be doubted I have detain'd Lieutenant Brooke who arriv'd at 3 'O clock with his Mortar &ca. here 'till I hear from the Major whom I have dispatch'd an Express to, on this occasion.

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[3p.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1756.*——

The Nabob has further Intelligence of 2 other Detachments of equal force excepting the Addition of 300 Sepoys to one of them being on their March from Waldore, a little behind the first Party, but taking the same Route.

Major Kilpatrick writes me this morning that he had come to a Resolution of moving to the Arrinee side this afternoon, on account of the Situation being reported the most advantageous for his purpose, besides preserving his communication with this place, He adds that Murtaz ally Cawn's Vackeel had not given him the least room to expect an Accommodation, and that tho' it would distress him in case he should be obliged to move, he should send down all the Bullocks he could spare reserving only sufficient for the Field Train but had neither Cooleys nor Lascars that he could possibly part with.

As things are in this Situation & Lieut^{t}. Brooke tells me he met great numbers of Madras Bullocks returning to the Settlement, I shall wait your Honour's Orders for pressing about Conjeveram &c^{a}., Places, detaining the Hircara at present no longer than just to assure you of my being Hon'ble Sir with perfect respect Your very Obed^{t} hble Servant

Arcot
1st. Febry 1756. EDM^{D}. MASKELYNE.

The Intention of the French in dividing their force into so many different Parties seems to be to endeavor to throw one of them into Veloor or close under the Walls (as the Killedar will hardly admit them further) In either of these Cases it will be in vain to attempt the Reduction of the Fort, which both by Art and nature is very strong and capable if defended by Europeans of resisting a much larger Force than Major Kilpatrick has with him. We have already given Major Kilpatrick such Instructions as tend to prevent as far as is in our power the Execution of this Design of the French and it is now Agreed to write him further that if notwithstanding his Endeavours they should find means to effect it, he is to protest against the French Officer for all bad Consequences that may attend his breaking the Truce and return with the Army to Arcot.

And the Committee can only remark herepon [*sic*] that as the French by such an action would become open Violators of the Treaties subsisting between the two Nations it will be lawful for us to make use of any Opportunity that may offer of acting against them.

In Order to preserve the King of Tanjour in our Alliance it is Agreed to inform him particularly of the Motions of the French and of the Probability of a Renewal of the Troubles by their means to assure him of our Assistance against all his Enemies and that Captn. Caillaud will immediately send him such Succours as he may apply for to defend his Country from any Attacks;

And to write in like manner to the Killedar of Chetteput, that Major Kilpatrick will send him such Assistance as he may apply for upon Intelligence of any Designs of the French against his Fort.

Order'd that Directions for the above Purposes be sent to Major Kilpatrick and Captain Caillaud and that the Latter do acquaint us of the Force of the French at Syringham as we may perhaps find it necessary to draw off a Part of the Trichenopoly Garrison to reinforce the Armies on this Side.

Order'd also that Colonel Adlercron be advis'd of the Intelligence we have receiv'd of the Motions of the French, and the Orders we have given in consequence since writing him the 1st. Instant.

Captain Polier writes from Changleput that as the Embrasures of most of his Bastions are unfit to be fir'd out of, he intends to repair some of the most necessary with Turf, and as he has but two Hircaras he will hire a couple of good Peons to bring him Intelligence if we approve thereof.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1756.*—— [3p.]

Agreed that Captain Polier have Permission to turf the Embrazures of such Bastions as are most necessary and to hire for the Present two Peons for Intelligence.

The following Letter from Richard Starke Esqr. read vizt.

To the Hon'ble the President and Governor
& the Gentlemen for conducting Country Affairs.

Hon'ble Sir & Sirs

Upon issuing out the Orders contain'd in your favor of the 23^d. Instant relating to the Seapoy Coneycoply's being entirely under the Direction of our Paymaster, Captain Pascal made the following Represention [*sic*] as necessary towards the Discharge of his Duty Viz^t.,

That the Sepoy Coneycoplies make a Report of all Casualties in their respective Companies to him as well as to the Paymaster

That they also make Morning and Evening Reports to him, that he may be enabled to draw out the several Details of Duty

That they give in their Rolls, and attend the Days of Exercise with Field returns as usual, concerning which I beg to be favour'd with your Directions.

Inclos'd is a Paper of Advice from Pondichery. I am with Respect Hon'ble Sir & Sirs Your most Obedient Humble Servant

Fort St. David
30th. Janry 1756. Rich^d. Starke.

The Committee are very sensible that it is necessary for the Commandant to be inform'd of all Casualties among the Sepoys and to have Rolls of the Companies as mention'd in M^r. Starke's Letter, But they are of Opinion at the same time that it is the Business of the Serjeant Commanding each Company to carry those Reports to the Commandant; not the Coneycoply who is entertain'd only to keep the Accounts of Pay.

Order'd that M^r. Starke be advised of this Opinion that he may acquaint Captain Pascal.

George Pigot.
Stringer Lawrence.
Henry Powney.
Robert Orme.
A^r. Wynch.
Willm. Percival.
Robt. Palk.

An Estimate for Tumbrils Bullocks and Lascars wanting for His Majesty's thirty ninth Regiment of foot when Order'd to take the field.

—	Lascars.	Tumbrils.	Draft Bullocks.	Carr Bullocks.	Spare Do.
Ammunition .. 100 Rounds for 700 Men at 1000 weight to a Tumbril is	36	6	36	..	..
Ammunition .. 50 Do. extra to be carried on Bullocks at one hundred and a half on each Bullock	..	..	..	39	..
Medicines	6	1	6	..	..
Money Chest	6	1	6	..	..
Field Officers & Captains	..	..	..	11	..
Twenty Subalterns	..	..	..	10	..
One Surgeon, four Mates & a Quarter Master	..	..	..	3	..
For non Commission'd Officers Rank & File	..	..	..	21	..
Spare Bullocks	..	..	..	..	20
Total ..	48	8	48	84	20

Verney Lovett Major.

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[illegible]

———*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1756.*———

A Proportion of Carriages, Bullocks and Lascars for 12 Pieces of Ordnance.

—			Carriages.		Bullocks.		Lascars.
			Carts.	Tumbrils.	Draft.	Carriage.	
Ammunition	12 Pounders	2	..	5	30	..	30
	6 Pounders	10	..	12	72	..	72
Ordnance	12 Pounders	2	..	..	16	..	16
	6 Pounders	10	..	..	60	..	60
Spare Carriages	12 Pounders	1	..	..	8	..	8
	6 Pounders	3	..	..	18	..	18
Money Chest		1	1	..	6	..	6
Medicine Chest		1	1	..	6	..	6
Forge Cart		1	..	..	6	..	6
Spare in case of Accident			..	..	50	10	16
Tents for	Officers	9	..	..	..	9	..
	Private	30	..	..	..	5	..
	Bell and Laboratory		..	..	..	2	..
Chests of Artificers Tools		5	..	..	..	2	..
Harness for Men	Setts	48	..	..	..	2	..
Tilts, wadmit			..	..	..	2	..
Iron and Steel			..	..	..	1	..
Carbine and Shot			..	..	..	1	..
Hand Bills			..	..	..	1	..
Dammers			..	..	..	1	..
Musquet Flints			..	..	..	1	..
Tann'd Hides and other Laboratory Stores ..			..	..	..	6	.
Powder	Barrels	14	..	..	..	7	..
Coals	Chaldron	½	..	..	..	3	..
Rope Coir	Spare		..	..	..	2	..
	Total ..		2	17	272	55	238

5th. January 1756. WILLM. HISLOP.

Pursuant to the Resolutions of the foregoing Committee Dispatch'd a Letter of this date to Colonel Adlercron as Enter'd No. 12.

Also the following Letters to Richard Starke Esqr. and Major James Kilpatrick.

To RICHARD STARKE Esqr.,
DEPUTY GOVERNOR OF FORT ST. DAVID.

Sir

We have receiv'd your Letters dated the 30th. and 31st. January, We would have you comply as far as you can and with as much Expedition as possible with all Colonel Adlercron's Demands to enable the Regiment to take the field, and this without waiting further Orders from us that no time may be lost.

It is certainly necessary Captain Pascal should have the Seapoy Reports he desires, but we look upon the Serjeant commanding each Company to be the Proper Person to furnish him, the Coneycoplies being entertain'd only to keep the Pay accounts.

We observe your Advices concerning the Motions of the French which seem to portend a Sudden Infringement of the Truce, We desire therefore that you will be very watchful, communicating immediately to Colonel Adlercron what news you receive.

We inclose for your perusal a Letter which you will seal and deliver to Colonel Adlercron. We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants GEORGE PIGOT—STRINGR LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY—ROBERT ORME—ALEXANDER WYNCH——WILLM PERCEVAL—ROBERT PALK.

Fort St. George
3d Febry 1756.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1756.*—— [3d.]

To MAJOR JAMES KILPATRICK.

Sir No. 4.

We have just receiv'd your Letter of the 31st. January and heard at the same time from Captn. Maskelyne of the Motions of the French from Chingee towards Veloor. In our Instructions dated the 31st. Janry, we have provided against almost every Turn your Affairs can possibly take, we inclose you a Duplicate of our said Instructions, to which we see occasion to add, only that in case a Party of the French should get Entrance into the Place or be lodged close under the Walls it will render it no doubt impossible for you to bring the Killedar to terms, you will therefore in such Circumstances protest against the Commanding Officer of the French Party for all the bad Consequences that may attend his Breaking the Truce and return with the Army to Arcot.

The present Situation of things makes it unnecessary as well as impossible for us to send you the Stores indented for.

Lieutenant Frazer march'd this morning with fifty Men, he is to go first to Arcot and to follow such Orders as you shall think proper to Send him.

If the Killedar of Chetteput upon these motions of the French should apply to you for Assistance we desire you will supply him with such Gunners and Soldiers as may be requisite for the defence of the Place. We are Sir your most Obedt Servants GEORGE PIGOT—STRINGER LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY—ROBT ORME—ALEXANDER WYNCH—WILLIAM PERCEVAL—ROBT. PALK.

Fort St. George
3d Febry 1756.

Sent the following Letter to Captain Caillaud.

4

To CAPTAIN JOHN CAILLAUD.

Sir No. 21.

By the Motions making by the French Troops towards our Army which is employ'd jointly with the Nabob's in calling upon the Phousdar of Veloor for the Tributes due from him we have reason to apprehend that the Truce will not subsist many days; we therefore give you this Advice that you may be on your Guard, and we desire you will inform us of the Strength of the French at Syringam as we may possibly find it necessary to draw off a part of your Garrison to reinforce the Armies this way.

The President now advises the King of Tanjour of this likelihood of a change in Affairs we inclose you a Copy of the Letter and desire you will also write to him, acquainting him that you have receiv'd Orders to give him Assistance in case any Enemy should attack his Country, and accordingly if there should be Occasion you will detach such a Party as you shall find necessary to join his Troops.

In this Situation it will be very proper that you use your Endeavors to get as much Grain as possible in the Fort.

The Nabob has promis'd to send us an Order on the Killedar for the Sums required in the Estimates you transmitted, We shall forward the Order to you as soon as it arrives. We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants GEORGE PIGOT—STRINGER LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY—ROBERT ORME—ALEXR. WYNCH—WILLIAM PERCEVAL—ROBERT PALK.

Fort St. George
4 February 1756.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1756.*——

THURSDAY THE 5. AT A COMMITTEE

Present

GEORGE PIGOT ESQR.	GOVERNOR PRESIDENT
STRINGER LAWRENCE	HENRY POWNEY
ROBERT ORME	ALEXANDER WYNCH
WILLIAM PERCEVAL	ROBERT PALK.

The following Letters receiv'd from Major Kilpatrick, Read;

TO THE HOÑ'BLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQR.
PRESIDENT & GOVERNOR &CA. COMMITTEE.

No. 1. Hon'ble Sir & Sirs

I wrote you yesterday of the Situation of the Army and am since honour'd with your Letter of the 30th Inst. on reconnoitring the Fort more attentively this day Lieutenants Hume and Godwin are of Opinion that the only practicable place to carry on our approaches is against that end of the Town leading to Arnee, the Grounds on this quarter being liable to an inundation from their Reservoirs at pleasure and as the Army must make a Circuit of 14 Miles, and in many places the roads very bad, I could not March before to morrow morning to take possession of the new Ground, the day after in Obedience to your Instructions shall send down Draft Bullocks to draw up the 24 Pounders reserving only in Camp sufficient for the Field Artillery, as to Lascars and Cooleys none can possibly be spared, as I intend immediately going to work in making Fascines, Gabions erecting Batteries and cover for my People, so hope the utmost Expedition will be used in forwarding the Stores, as you know the small quantities we have here; I wrote this morning to Captain Maskelyne to desire he would use his Endeavors to get a Sufficient Number of Cooleys at Arcot and send them down to you, The sparing Bullocks from hence may be attended with many inconveniencies, as it will now be out of my power to change my Situation either to take an Advantage or avoid a Difficulty both of which frequently present themselves on these Occasions, I flatter myself our New Encampment will be attended with this great advantage, that a Communication with Arcot by the Arnee Road will be much easier preserved than were we to remain here.

As there was only one Eight Inch Mortar at Madras I could have wish'd you had thought proper to send up one of ten, I still believe it will be of infinite Service and beg'd it may be forwarded with the other Stores.

I have receiv'd Intelligence that a Vackeel from Suberow who commands at Vencatageree a Fort of Morarow on the other Side Saut Goody has been at Veloor some days in Treaty for furnishing a Body of Horse, that they had agreed for the Sum of Money to be paid but had some Disputes about the disposal of any Plunder that might be taken yesterday the Vackeel left the Place and had presents and Beetle given him, but cannot learn what was concluded on the same Persons inform me that two Pollygars call'd Congundy and Punganore great Friends of Murtaz Ally Cawn (but subject to the Nabob of Currapah) have actually detach'd 2,000 Peons to his Assistance, should either of these prove true it will be absolutely necessary you should think of sending a sufficient Force to keep open our Communication and prevent the Country from being plunder'd for tho I may have nothing to fear myself from their Junction yet as the Reinforcements sent me up are not near equal to those I wrote for it will be out of my power to furnish any other than what regards the Operations against the Place.

In the Villages round are quanitties [*sic*] of Paddy and a great deal more near ready for cutting, as I am unacquainted with the Methods observ'd in the Division of it it would be very necessary you should employ Persons you can depend on to take proper care of it; I will use my endeavors to prevent it's being plunder'd or carried away by the Inhabitants.

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——*FORT St. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1756.*—— [5th.]

The Vackeel who promised to return to Day is not yet come. I am with the greatest Respect Hoñ'ble Sir & Sirs Your most Obedient humble Servant

Camp before Veloor
1 February 1756. JAMES KILPATRICK.

P.S. I have this Instant receiv'd a Letter from Murtaz ally Cawn desiring I would send in Vencatachilum and my Dubash which I shall do in the morning, at the time we March.

To the Hoñ'ble George Pigot Esqr.
President and Governor &^ca Committee
At Fort S^t. George.

No. 2.

Hon'ble Sir & Sirs

Agreable to my Letter of yesterday I march'd the Army this morning into the Arnee Road and am encamp'd within three Miles of the Fort of Veloor; the Difficulties I met with by the badness of the Roads, & the large Circuit I was obliged to make on account of the Swamps and Marshes made this day's March very fatigueing, as it was after 3 O' Clock before we reached our Ground.

Early this morning by Letters from the Nabob and Captain Maskelyne, I have advices of a French Detachment under the Command of M^r. D'Hotel, and a Reinforcement a few days March behind coming to the Relief of Murtaz ally Cawn, and this Intelligence was confirm'd to me since, and that the former was only 5 Corse from hence; I have Dispatch'd proper persons to bring me certain Accounts of their Numbers and Intentions, and as I have received orders in your Letter of the 27th. October for my Guidance in Affairs of this Nature I shall strictly observe them, our Hircaras say the only Roads for Artillery to the Fort are either by Arnee or Arcot, as he is now marching by the former, our Encamping here will effectually intercept his Passage this way and shall employ trusty People to observe his Motions very closely. the Situation of the Place puts it out of my power to make a Division of our Force as it would be impossible in case of an Emergency to join again in less than two days for which reason I hope Advices of these Parties have reach'd you time enough to Guard against their succeeding by the way of Arcot.

The first Party consists of 200 Europeans 4 Guns and 300 Sepoys, the Second of the same number of Europeans 3 Guns and 700 Sepoys, should either of these Parties succeed in throwing themselves into the Fort, You must be very sensible our present Force is by no means sufficient for reducing the Place; for the above reasons believe in this Critical Situation you will approve of my not dispatching away any Bullocks till I am at a further Certainty.

I have receiv'd advices of the Eight Inch Mortar being at Arcot, but did not think it safe to trust it with any Escort they could furnish, have therefore wrote to desire it might be kept there.

At two O' Clock this morning I received a Letter from Murtaz ally Cawn, telling me he would send one of his People to acquaint me when he was ready to receive the Dubashes, as no Person was since sent to me they are not yet gone in. I am with the greatest Respect Hoñble Sir & Sirs, Your most Obedient & most humble Servant

Camp near Veloor
2^d Febry 1756. JAMES KILPATRICK.

Captain Maskelyne advices by Letter dated the 2^d Instant. That the Nabob's Intelligence of the 1st. from Arnee put the French Detachment too forward, as he is inform'd by his own People whom he can depend upon much better, that they only reach'd Wonamungalum (which is about six Miles to the Southward of Arnee) at noon [*a word or two lost.*] That he has no Account at all of any other Party's moving from Chingee, nor the Nabob any Confirmation of yesterday's Report.

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[Sent.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1756.*——

At the same time receiv'd from Mr. Starke the following Advices from Pondichery of the 2 Instant "That one hundred Soldiers, two hundred Sepoys, "Two Tumbrils and three Guns were sent from Pondichery the 1st. to Villanoor and "that they march'd from thence together with the Detachment that was there before "for Veloor."

Agreed to advise Major Kilpatrick of the foregoing Intelligence and to acquaint him that having sent out all the Men we can possibly spare we are unable to make any Detachment from hence to prevent Succours going to Veloor by the Arcot Road, and we depend on his doing the most he can with the Force he has.

Receiv'd the following Letter from Richard Starke Esqr. inclosing a Plan of the Redoubt building by the French at Villanour and Mr. Call's Explanation thereupon.

To the Hoñble George Pigot Esqr.,

Hoñble Sir

Agreable to what I had the Honour to acquaint the Committee the 27th. ultimo I now send you a Plan of the Works which the French are building at Villanore, with Mr. Call's Explanation of them, who will proceed to Porto Novo as soon as he can conveniently be spared in order to survey the Materials of our Factory House that fell down in the late Floods, as well as the Fortifications now building there by the French, which as soon as I get a Plan of, will also transmit you. I am with Respect Hon'ble Sir Your most Obedient humble Servant Richd. Starke.

Fort St. David
1st. Febry 1756.

To Richard Starke Esqr., Deputy Governor.

Sir

The Messenger which I sent to Vilienoor being return'd has brought me such Intelligence as enabled me to make the accompanying Plan of the Redoubt which the French are building on the S.W. side of that Village and thô I am apt to believe the Dimensions of the Work are not to be depended on, yet I dare say the form is sufficiently exact to give an Idea of the use for which the French intend that Structure.

As the Extent of the Place & the Dimension of each Part are shewn by the Plan and Profit which I have drawn. I shall say nothing on that head, but observe in general that the whole is arched over and built in Brick and Chunam, that the Counterscarp of the Ditch is faced with the same, but the cover'd way not being finished is only form'd by the Earth of the Glacis cut down with a small Slope. There are Bricklayers and Cooleys now at Work on the Rampart laying on the Cordon and forming a Parapet, With respect to the Work on the Hill I have had no further Information; for the Person whom I sent being suspected was question'd and sent out of the Place with a Peon, and would have been seized had not the Precaution I took of giving him a Letter for Captn Gauppe brought him off.

I must beg leave to observe further that when I was at Vilienoore the Situation of that Place and Ariancopang appeared to be such, that the Shot from those two places might almost cross each other, and the River which runs between them is near Villanoore, so deep that the passing it might be render'd very troublesome; And I am apt to imagine that 'tis with a view of rendering the access to Pondichery more difficult the French are building this Redoubt.

I should have set out for Porto Novo last night as I intended, but that the Master Bricklayer being very ill and a great deal of Work now in Hand has obliged me to defer that Journey till my Absence may be less inconvenient. I am very respectfully Sir Your most Obedient and very humble Servant

Fort St. David
1st Febry 1756.

John Call.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1756.*—— [5th]

Agreed that Mr. Starke be Directed to make Enquiry whether any Fortification was there before and when this was begun, in order that a Representation may be made to Mr. De Leyrit (as soon as the Information expected from Porto Novo reaches us) of his breaking the 9th Article of the Provisional Treaty if they are found to be new erected Fortifictions.

Letter from Captain Polier read, inclosing an Indent for Gun Carriages. Order'd that a Carpenter do go and take the Dimensions of the Guns that if there be any proper siz'd Spare Carriages here ready they be sent out, otherwise that new ones be set about.

Letter from Messrs. Gauppe & Bannatyne Commissaries for Contested Districts dated 30th. January Read, as enter'd in their Proceedings No. 3. Setting forth by many Instances the Impossibility of proceeding any one Step in their Mission in concert with the French Commissaries that Mr. Durocher declares himself Commander for the French of the Carongoly and Saliwauck Perganas and under that Title gives Orders to cut and carry away the Grain Directly. That on pretence of being sole Possessors they strive to receive all the Revenues & that besides the ready Money regularly paid last year to the two Parties in concert; they the French took 10 & 20 to 50 & 80 Pagodas from every Village. That on our Part they had given Orders to cut the Grain as it became ripe and put it in heaps as last year, that the Inhabitants might bring their Accounts aud receive their Shares; And that notwithstanding all the Difficulties they meet with, they have yet good hopes that every thing regarding the Contested Districts will turn out to a better Advantage for the English Company and their Allies than it did the last Year.

The Open Irregularities of the French Commissaries, evince beyond Doubt that they do not intend to bring the Right of Property to an amicable Decision. Agreed that our Gentlemen be advised of the Probability that appears of the Truce being broke and Directed to be on their Guard; in case Hostilities Should begin and they find their Situation precarious, to retire with their Sepoys to Carongoly Fort, keep the Country from Plunder as far as they can, and secure as much of the Grain as possible.

Three Letters from the Nabob read, as enter'd in the Country Correspondence Ns. 21, 22 & 23 Strenuously recommending that the Fort of Veloor be taken, as the Troops have march'd into those Districts, and setting forth that the Force in Arcot (where he is with his Family) is but Small.

Agreed to write the Nabob that Major Kilpatrick has our full Directions regarding the Fort of Veloor & that in case the Motions of the French should alarm his Family in Arcot Town and they should chuse to retire into the Fort, Captn. Maskelyne will provide for them in the best manner possible.

Order'd that Directions be sent Captain Maskelyne accordingly.

And as Major Kilpatrick advises in his Letter of the 1st. That two Polygars subject to the Nabob of Cudapah are sending Assistance to Murtaz ally Cawn it is Agreed to write the Nabob to desire the Nabob of Cudapah to forbid the said Polygars from intermeddling in our Affairs.

GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.

.....

AR. WYNCH.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.
ROBt PALK.

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[5TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1756.*——

Sent the following Letters to Richard Starke Esqr, and Major James Kilpatrick pursuant to the Resolutions of the foregoing Committee.

To RICHARD STARKE Esq^{R}.

Sir

I have received your Letters of the 1st. & 2^{d}. Inst the first inclosing the Plan of the Redoubt at Villenoor with M^{r}. Calls Remarks on it.

You will send me the Information you may receive from Porto Novo and learn if you can when the Works were begun both there and at Villenoor and whether any Buildings were there before. I am Sir Your most Obedient Servant

Fort S^{t}. George
5th. Febry 1756. GEORGE PIGOT.

To MAJOR JAMES KILPATRICK.

No. 5. Sir

We wrote you (No. 4) the 3^{d} Instant, of which inclosed is a Duplicate, and have since received your Letters No. 1 & 2 dated the 1st & 2^{d} Instant. We are glad to observe that Captain Maskelyne's Intelligence of the French Parties reached you in time to prevent your Sending away the Bullocks, and to enable you to Stop the Mortar at Arcot untill we can judge with more certainty what Turn Affairs are likely to take.

Having sent you out all the Men we can possibly spare it is not in our power to make any Detachment from hence so as to prevent the French from throwing Succours into Veloor; we are Satisfied you will do the most you can with the Force you have. Mr. Starke advises that one hundred Soldiers and two hundred Seapoys Marched from Pondichery to Villanore the 2^{d} Instant. We are Sir Your most Obed^{t} Servants. GEORGE PIGOT—STRING^{R} LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY—ROBT. ORME—ALEXR. WYNCH—WILLIAM PERCEVAL—ROBERT PALK.

Fort S^{t}. George
5 Febry 1756.

[7TH.] The President received a Letter from Duval De Leyrit Esqr. dated the 5th Instant, as Enter'd in the French Correspondence No. 12.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

SUNDAY THE 8TH. GEORGE PIGOT Esq^{R}. GOVERNOR PRESIDENT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE HENRY POWNEY
ROBERT ORME ALEXANDER WYNCH
WILLIAM PERCEVAL ROBERT PALK.

The Substance of Mr. DeLeyrit's Letter dated the 5 Instant No. 12 may be distinguishd into three Parts. First he says that Salabat Jung as Prince of the Decan is the only Person entitled to the Tribute of Phousdars, Pollygars Killedars &c^{a}. and that Mahomed Ally has been long solliciting him in vain for the Phirmaunds of this Province which proves that he has no Right—Secondly he replies to our Objections against Mr. Bussy's accompanying Salabat Jung into the Mysore Country and against his turning out the Chief of Toriour in favour of another since the Truce, saying that neither M^{r}. Bussy, himself, nor the French Nation profited any thing from the Mysore Expedition and that Toriour having been conquer'd by them before

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1756.*—— [8mo]

the Truce they have a Right to Establish what Order they please in the Government—And thirdly he proposes, if his Arguments do not appear to us Definitive, that they may be discuss'd and settled by a Conference, either between Deputies appointed on each Side, or personally between himself and the President, demanding that we suspend in the mean time all Acts of Hostility against the Phousdar of Veloor or other Person.

The following Observations occurr'd to the Committee in the Course of their Debate on Mr. De Leyrits before mentioned Letter, On the first Part that if Salabat Jung has the Rights of Souba of the Decan it is not surprizing he should refuse a Phirmaund for this Province to Mahomed Ally because it is well known that Salabat Jung is so much under the Influence of the French, that for a Word he would pronounce Sentence of Banishment not only on Mahomed Ally but every Englishman on the Coast; That Mahomed Ally's Rights over this Province have often been proved, and he will be answerable to the Prince of the Dekan when it shall be known whom the Mogul has appointed to that Government; As to Salabat Jung he cannot be regarded as such untill the French Influence is removed from his Person. On the Second That whether the Mysore Money was paid to Mr. Bussy or to Salabad Jung is the same thing as the immense Sums collected from this Province, as well as those to the Northward enable the French to Settle Accounts as they please, and with regard to Toriour as Mr. Leyrit founds his Title on Right of Conquest our Pretensions over the Pollygars, Killedars &ca. who acknowledg'd the Nabob at the Conclusion of the Truce are at least equally Valid, for if that Acknowledgment was an Effect of the Force or Terror of the Nabob's Arms it is just the same Title as they plead to Toriour; if it was an Effect of their Conviction of the Justice of the Nobob's Rights, it is certainly a better Title than they plead. And on the third Part it is to be observed that our Conduct throughout has been more moderate than that of the French. For Instance, Altho the Chief of Toriour offer'd to pay the usual Tribute they would not be contented with any thing less than Displacing him. We have always chosen the way of Accommodation and are still endeavouring to settle on Amicable Terms with the Killedar of Veloor, for which Reason no Hostilities have yet been committed against him.

With regard to Mr. De Leyrit's Proposal of a Conference either by Deputies or by a General Meeting with the President, the Committee being of Opinion that the last will be the most decisive and most Expeditious Method; the President tenders his Services on the Occasion offering to meet Mr. De Leyrit at Madarantegum, the Place where our Commissaries now are, in the hopes to determine at the same time our Differences regarding the Contested Districts which we do not think of Sufficient Importance to be the Cause of a War between the two Nations, although that seems to be the End desired by Mr. Durocher, who from a Commissary has declared himself Commander in Chief for the French of the Carongoly and Saliwauck Perganas and already acts openly, lately into the Village of Mooshery which was under our Sole and uncontested Management the last Year, he sent an Armed Force and Stop'd the Grain, keeping possession of the Village.

This is a fresh Instance of the Inclination of the French for War, and the following Account receiv'd from Mr. Starke of the Buildings carrying on by them at Villenoor & Porto Novo mention'd in Committee the 5th is another Instance.

Account of the Buildings carrying on by the French at Villenour and Porto Novo.

After Chunda Saeb was kill'd at Seringham the French raised an Earthen Point at Villanour, & after the Departure of Nabob Mahomed Ally Cawn to Trichenopoly from Trivedy, the French pull'd down the said Earthen Point and began to lay a Foundation for a Redoubt, which they carried on but slowly till within a Month past, there was no Building or Fortification at Villanour before, except a Pagoda.

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[illegible] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1756.*——

Two Years ago some part of the French Factory at Porto Novo was washed away by the Land Flood, the rest last Year, a few Materials were Saved out of it, whereupon the French chose a Spot of Ground, on which were some small Brick and Thatch'd Houses of the Inhabitants which they order'd to be pull'd down and carried the Materials to another Place, this was accordingly done. The French compleated a part of the Buildings of their Factory on the aforesaid Ground which are some Lodgings and a thick and Strong Brick Wall round it with four Points to it. They have demolish'd three large Banksalls or Warehouses of Moodamiah late Phousdar of Chellumbrum, at Porto Novo, and carried the Materials of them to their Buildings, besides this they have pull'd down the Fort Walls of Shaicksaeb and his houses and carried the Materials away. Before the French began this Fort, they had no other Building at Porto Novo than the Factory House lately destroy'd by the Floods.

Order'd that a Letter founded on the foregoing Minutes be wrote Mr. De Leyrit in answer to his of the 5th and dispatch'd as soon as Possible.

The following Letters received from Major James Kilpatrick, Read.

To the Honble George Pigot Esqr., President & Governor &ca., Committee of Correspondence at Fort St. George.

No. 3. Honble Sir & Sirs

Since writing last Night I am honour'd with your Letters No. 2 and 3 and have also received certain Information that a Party of the French reached Wonnamungalum 6 Miles to the Southward of Arnee at 11, O'Clock yesterday morning.

For the reasons I gave in my last shall remain in our present Encampment, without some Motions of the Enemy should make it necessary to Alter our Disposition; I have given over thoughts of a Seige for the present, as our Force is much too small to carry on any Operations against the Place, and at the same time be in a sufficient Security against the Attempts of the French who might probably oblige us to raise the Seige which would be attended with great disadvantages as well as discredit to our Arms; I have therefore thought it more adviseable still to keep an appearance of Treaty and Friendship with the Killedar than Attempt a Plan I must enevitably fail in the Execution of without a covering Army to observe the Motions of the French.

He sent to me this morning He would be glad to see Vencatachilum and my Dubash I have sent them in to him.

I have wrote particularly to Coll. Adlercron and shall continue to do so, as occurrences happen. Enclos'd are the Returns of the Army, [Stores] &ca. I am with the greatest Respect Hon'ble Sir and Sirs Your most Obedient & most humble Servant

Camp near Veloor
3d. Febry 1756. Ja. Kilpatrick.

P.S. The return of Stores not being quite ready would not detain the Hircarah but will forward them in my next. I have sent Coll. Adlercron his.

To the Hon'ble George Pigot Esqr. President & Governor &ca. Committee of Correspondence at Fort St. George.

No. 4. Hon'ble Sir & Sirs

Vencatachilum and my Dubash return'd from Murtaz ally Cawn late last Night, but without effecting any thing towards the Payment of the Nabob's Demands, I desir'd they would lay a Stress on the friendship I have shewn for him hitherto, in protecting his Villages, and not allowing any of our People to plunder the Inhabitants, He had therefore better pay, and save his Country before it was too

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———*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1756.*———

late, He told them he did not at all doubt my own good Intentions, but imagin'd I rather acted so by your Orders than by any particular regard I could have for him, He still places great Dependence on M^r. Saunders's Letter, and thinks it must be entirely owing to the false Representations made you that any Army was sent against him, and still assures me he never made the least mention of paying a Lack of Pagodas to the Nabob; and refers me to Saeb Mucdoom or any other Person he ever treated with to know if he did, agreable to the Agreement enter'd into with Abdul Bob Cawn, He says he has at all times been ready to comply with it, and has even done much more than he was obliged to, by advancing money several different Times to Abdul Bob Cawn, and paying his Orders to the Morattas and other People, that he was still ready to assist us and him all in his power, but as he could not help being greatly alarm'd at such a Force in his Country, He had been obliged to apply to the French and had sent the Governor of Pondichery Copies of Abdul Bob Cawns treaty with him, As also of M^r. Saunders's Letter, and had received in Answer that He would never suffer the English to take his Place, and ask'd why he had not applied to him sooner; He is therefore come to a Resolution to hold out his Fort as long as he can, and when he can do no more he will deliver it to the French, but at the same time says he should be very glad to continue in Friendship with us, that 'till we commit Hostilities against him, he will never think of giving us or the Nabob any Disturbance, as he has no regard for, or desire of joining the French.

I have now laid before you Gentlemen the Substance of what Murtaz ally Cawn has said; you will therefore be the proper judges in the Affair; The Dubashes still think he would prefer our Friendship to that of the French and might be brought to pay some Money, tho not near equal to the Nabob's Demands; He told them he would send his Vackeel to me this day.

As you know my Situation so well I need not tell you, it is not any evasions of this kind, that could prevent my putting in immediate execution your Orders, but as the French seem determin'd to support him against any Attempts I can make with this Force, I am of Opinion the Company's Interest would suffer much more, by being frustrated after once attempting the reducting [*sic*] of the Place than were we to keep terms with him, till every thing was provided to prevent our Success being doubtful.

I have had no certain Accounts from my own People of the Motions of the French, Captain Maskelyne gives me positive information of their being at a Place Six Miles to the Southward of Arnee the 2^d Instant, about 35 Miles from hence, however have they an Intention to relieve this Place, they have it as effectually in their Power by being at Gingee as if they were only 10 Miles distant, if we have no covering army to oppose them.

I am preparing every thing in my power for carrying on the Seige, our Workmen are employ'd in making Fascines, Gabions, and Picketts, we are equally as well situated for preparing these Things, as were we to encamp nearer the Fort, so that no time shall be lost on this Account. Enclos'd is the Return of Stores which was not ready yesterday I am with the greatest Respect Hon'ble Sir & Sirs Your most Obed^t humble Servant

Camp near Veloor
4 Febry 1756. JAMES KILPATRICK.

It appearing to the Committee by Major Kilpatrick's foregoing Letters that the Reduction of Veloor while the French are capable of interrupting our Operations is impracticable and that the Attempt if push'd to extremity might probably drive the Killedar to the Resolution of giving the Place to the French

And the Killedar's Vackeel having been with the President to assure him of the Sincerity of his Master's Inclinations to accommodate the present Dispute and live in friendship with the Nabob and us; and in order to this Accommodation he should be glad to discourse with some English Gentleman deputed by us.

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[illegible.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1756.*——

Mr. Orme being acquainted with the Moor's Language; It is Agreed that he be charged with this Negociation, that he proceed immediately to Veloor in Company with the Killedars Vackeel with Instructions to the following Effect—To endeavour to convince the Killedar of the Ambitious Views of the French and of their Design under the Pretence of assisting him to make themselves Masters of his Fort—To represent to him that the Expences of the Troops we are obliged to maintain to defend the Country against them are very large and it is reasonable he should pay a part—To try after such an Introduction how much he can be brought to pay, his Vackeel now offers a Lack of Rupees, we hope more than that may be got, but leave it to his Management—To Stipulate Articles of Friendship with the Kellidar, promising him Protection, if after settling the Sum to be paid, he shall be desirous of it, the said Articles to be refer'd to our Consideration—To wait on the Nabob at Arcot, acquaint him with our Intentions, and desire a Letter from him to the Killedar, empowering him (Mr. Orme) to act for him at Veloor—To call on Major Kilpatrick in the Camp and acquaint him also with our Intentions—To act in Camp in quality of Commissary General—And as Mr. Orme is well acquainted with the whole System of our Affairs it is Agreed to give him full Power to act in whatever may occur to him for the Company's Benefit as well with the Nabob, as otherwise.

Agreed further that Major Kilpatrick be advised of the above Resolutions and directed to continue in his present Encampment forbearing Hostilities against Veloor and to return with the Army to Arcot and reduce the Expences as soon as he Shall be inform'd by Mr. Orme of an Agreement finish'd with the Killedar.

The President will write at the same time to the Nabob and Murtaz ally Cawn, concerning Mr. Orme's Deputation.

GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
AR. WYNCH.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.
ROBt. PALK.

Sent the following Letter to Major James Kilpatrick pursuant to the Resolutions of the foregoing Committee.

To MAJOR JAMES KILPATRICK.

No. 6. Sir

We have before us your Letters No. 3 & 4 dated the 3d and 4th Instant, we observe your Nagociations with Murtaz ally Cawn aud approve entirely of your defering Hostilities against the Fort; Mr. De Leyrit has proposed to come to an Accommodation, it is pretty certain from thence that the French Troops will not advance nearer to you, and if they should Colonel Adlercron will be in motion from Fort St. David. We would have you however remain in your present Encampment, keep on good Terms with the Killedar and prevent as you have hitherto done any Plunder in his Districts, because we have determin'd to make a final Attempt to settle the Affair amicably.

For this purpose Mr. Orme will set out this Evening. He will call on you in Quality of Commissary General and go from thence into Veloor along with Murtaz ally Cawn's Vackeel.

Mr. Orme has our full Instructions to Settle with the Killedar and make if possible a lasting Treaty of future friendship with him, He will acquaint you with our Intentions as well as with the Result of his Embassy. Should it be successfull

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1756.*—— [8va]

you will then please to leave the Veloor Districts, return with the Army to Arcot, put the Troops in Quarters and reduce all Expences as much as possible. We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants GEORGE PIGOT — STRINGER LAWRENCE — HENRY POWNEY —— ALEXANDER WYNCH— WILLIAM PERCEVAL — ROBT. PALK.

Fort St. George.
8 Febry 1756.

This Evening Mr. Orme set out with the following Instructions pursuant to this Mornings Resolutions.

To ROBERT ORME Esqr.

Sir

The Phousdar of Veloor's Vackeel having made some proposals of Accommodation to the President we have resolv'd to settle upon Amicable Terms with him if possible and to entrust you with the Management of that Negociation. You will please therefore to proceed as soon as you can conveniently to Veloor, and Dadaraw the Phousdar's Vackeel will accompany you.

You will endeavor to imprint on the Phousdar the same Idea we with so much reason entertain of the Ambitious Designs of the French, then represent to him the largeness of the Force we are obliged to maintain to preserve the Country from their Dominion, and how reasonable it is that He and all who have Possessions to Secure, should Contribute towards that Expence.

After such an Introduction you may open to him that you are fully empower'd to settle as well as for the present as the time to come a Treaty of Friendship with him upon a just and reasonable footing.

Murtaz ally Cawn's Vackeel, in his Master's Name now offers one Lack of Rupees, but we hope he may be induc'd to pay a larger Sum, we leave this intirely to your Management, as well as what Security to accept for such Part of the Agreement as he cannot be brought to pay in ready Money.

This is our first, and at present, principal Object, which settled, the Army is immediately to withdraw and if after that he is inclined to enter into a firm friendship with us, on his punctually paying the Tribute in future You may promise him or if he insists on it, stipulate in Articles with him which must be referr'd to our Consideration, that as long as he observes the Terms agreed on No Person whatever shall molest him and we will protect him against all his Enemies, he also on his Part promising to assist the Nabob and us on all Occasions.

You will call on the Nabob at Arcot acquaint him with our Intentions and get a Letter from him to Murtaz ally Cawn, assuring him that any Agreements you may make will be agreable to him, and shall be constantly observ'd on his Part.

From Arcot you will go first to Camp, acquaint Major Kilpatrick with our Intentions and when you return from Veloor let him know the Result of your Conference that in case an accommodation is concluded, He may return with the Army to Arcot and reduce Expences.

In Camp you will act in quality of Commissary General and as you are well acquainted with the General System of our Affairs, we give you full Power to act in any matter that shall occur to you for the Company's Benefit with regard to the Nabob or otherwise. We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants GEORGE PIGOT— STRINGER LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY———ALEXANDER WYNCH—WILLM. PERCEVAL— ROBT. PALK.

Fort St. George
8 Febry 1756.

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[9TH]

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1756.*——

Sent a Letter from the President to Mr. De Leyrit of this Date as enter'd in the French Correspondence No. 13.

At a Committee

MONDAY THE 9TH.

Present

GEORGE PIGOT Esqr, GOVERNOR PRESIDENT
STRINGER LAWRENCE — HENRY POWNEY
... — ALEXANDER WYNCH
WILLIAM PERCEVAL — ROBERT PALK.
Mr. ORME *absent on Service*

Three Letters from Colonel Adlercron as enter'd in the Book of his Correspondence No. 13, 14 & 15, Read, assuring us of his own and the whole Regiment's Zeal and readiness to act for the Company's Service -- Requesting that a Commissary may be nominated for the Payment of the Several Attendants in the Field, and that Mr. Kiernander may be permitted to go with them as his knowledge of the Languages may be useful— Setting forth that the Court Martial on Captn. Schaub should be held at St. David, where the Offence was committed for which purpose Capts. Polier and Gauppe and as many Swiss Officers as can possibly be spar'd must thither repair -- And desiring a Supply of Money for the Subsistence of the Regiment; Captn. Forde, the Paymaster having represented the want of it by the Dodington's not being Arrived.

In consequence of Colonel Adlercron's beforemention'd Letters It is Agreed that Mr. James Bourchier be appointed Commissary to take the Field with the King's Troops, and that Mr. Kiernander be permitted to accompany them That Colonel Adlercron be requested to send Captain Schaub hither to be tried as it will be very inconvenient to order Captains Polier and Gauppe to Fort St. David, and besides the Committee of Accounts will be under a necessity in a few days to require Captain Schaub's presence here to clear up some Matters in the Accounts of the Subsistence Money he drew for his People at Pondichery which the Court of Directors have order'd to be examined. And that Mr. Starke do supply Coll. Adlercron with whatever Money or Stores he may require for the Use of the Regiment taking Bills on the proper Officers in England for the Amount at the Rate of 6sh. 6d. ℔ weighty Dollar, as directed in the 12th. Paragraph of our Honorable Master's Orders dated 2 March 1754.

The following Letters from Richd. Starke Esqr., Read, with Copy of one from Colonel Adlercron to Mr. Starke.

To the Hoñ'ble the President & Governor
& the Gentlemen for conducting Country Affairs.

Hoñ'ble Sir & Sirs

I have received your favour of the 1st Instant inclosing a Letter to Colonel Adlercron which I deliver'd and have had a conference with him on the Subject thereof, in consequence of which I am now preparing every thing that may be necessary for the King's Troops to take the Field, and should be glad to know in what manner I am to bring to Account, the Bullocks which I may be under a necessity of purchasing, as also the Person that is to have the Care of the Colonel's Table.

Inclos'd is copy of a Letter just now received from Colonel Adlercron, concerning which you will please to favour me with your Directions. I am with Respect, Hoñ'ble Sir & Sirs Your most Obedt. humble Servant

Fort St. David
4 Febry. 1756.

RICHD STARKE.

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——*FORT St GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1756.*—— [9mo]

To the Hon'ble the President and Governor
& the Gentlemen for conducting Country Affairs.

Hon'ble Sir & Sirs

I have received your favour of the 3d. Inst. inclosing a Letter for Colonel Adlercron which I have seal'd and deliver'd.

Colonel Adlercron in behalf of himself and Field Officers has desired me to acquaint you that he hopes a Field Equipage Suitable to their Rank will be allowed them, particularly a Tumbril, a Horse and Palanquin for each, as also a Horse for his Adjutant and Captain Hislop requests that one may also be allowed to his Adjutant.

Mr. Call acquaints me that for want of Tar, many of the Stores indented for by the King's Troops cannot be compleated, you will therefore please to send some as soon as you conveniently can.

My endeavours shall not be wanting to get the best Intelligence I can of the Motions of the French which I always communicate as soon as received to Colonel Adlercron. I am with Respect, Hon'ble Sir & Sirs Your most Obedient humble Servant

Fort St. David
5 Febry. 1756. Richd. Starke.

Copy of Colonel Adlercron's Letter to Mr. Starke.

To Richard Starke Esqe.
Deputy Governor of Fort St. David.

Sir

The Presidency knowing the difficulty I should have had in providing a Table for myself, have been pleased to appoint that one should be kept for me as soon as I took the Field, but there remain still some Points to be settled, with which I beg leave to trouble you to represent them to the Committee in order to their being regulated.

The Allowance made me for a Horse and Palanquin will be vastly short of the Expence thereof in the Field, and I should be much better pleased, instead of any Allowance, that the Person who is to have the care of my Table defrayed also the charge of my Horse and Palanquin, and I have no trouble with them.

I want from the Company a Tent as Commander in Chief, the one I have being only as Colonel, & infinitely too small for the number of People I shall be obliged to have constantly about me.

My Secretary should have a Palanquin kept for him, as it will be absolutely necessary he should be always near me.

My Secretary as Judge Advocate General on this Coast, has had a great deal of trouble with Affairs purely relative to the Company, and yet has never received any Allowance as such, tho the other Staff Officers have been consider'd; A Batta should therefore be fixed upon for Mr. Carnac both as Secretary and Judge Advocate, as likewise of Aid-de-Camp as soon as I shall nominate one. I have the honour to be Sir Your most Obedient humble Servant

Garden House
4 Febry 1756. (Sign'd) John Adlercron.

The Representations made by Coll. Adlercron to Mr. Starke in the foregoing Letter being taken into Consideration it is Agreed that the Expences of Colonel Adlercron's Table be defrayed by the Company, that he appoint his own Steward to manage it, whose Bills certified by the Colonel shall be paid monthly by the Commissary as well as the Maintenance of a Horse for the Field Officers, Captain Hislop and the Adjutants.

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[9TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1756.*——

And that the Colonel's Secretary and Aid de Camp be allowed Captain's Batta.

Order'd that Letters be wrote to Colonel Adlercron and Mr. Starke conformably to the foregoing Resolutions.

GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.

...

A. WYNCH.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.
ROBT. PALK.

Sent a Letter of this date to Colonel Adlercron as enter'd in the Book of Correspondence with him No. 16. Also the following Letter to Richard Starke Esqr., pursuant to the Resolutions of the foregoing Committee.

To RICHARD STARKE ESQR.
DEPUTY GOVERNOR OF FORT ST. DAVID.

Sir

We have receiv'd your Letters dated the 4th and 5th Instant with Copy of Colonel Adlercrons to you of the 4.

Inclosed is a Letter which after perusing you will seal and deliver to Colonel Adlercron, You will therein observe how far we have complied with his several Requests and accordingly

You will give Orders to your Military Storekeeper to make such a Tent as Colonel Adlercron shall direct, for the cost of which as well as of all other necessaries or Stores supplied the Regiment you are to take Bills from Colonel Adlercron or the proper Officers in England at the rate of Six Shillings and Six Pence ℔ Weighty Dollar.

In the same manner you are to supply him with what Money he shall make application for.

For your more particular Guidance we give you the following Copy of our Hon'ble Master's Directions on these Subjects

"What we have said above with regard to supplying his Majesty's Ships with "Money, Stores, Provisions and necessaries, and adjusting accounts with the proper "Officers must be the rule you are to observe with Respect to all Accounts relative "to his Majestys Land Forces, and Bills are to be drawn at the same rate of Six "Shillings and Six pence ℔ weighty Dollar upon the Board of Ordnance or such "other of his Majesty's Officers in England whose Province it is to Discharge such "Bills or adjust such Accounts."

We have appointed Mr. James Bourchier Commissary, to take the Field with the King's Troops. In the mean time Mr. Call will take charge of the Bullocks for Mr. Bourchier; The Cost of such as are bought is to be paid by the Commissary; They are to be fed also by the Commissary on the Company's Account while in Garrison, and when they are sent to the Field the Contractors will repay their cost, and take charge of them.

We shall send up Mr. Bourchier when we find that the Troops are actually to take the Field & give him Directions to pay the Monthly Bills of the Steward Colonel Adlercron shall appoint to keep his Table, as also the Charges of keeping Horses for the Field Officers, Captain Hislop; and the Adjutants & Captain's Batta to the Secretary and Aid de Camp.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1756.*—— [10TH.]

You will endeavour to get a Plentiful Buzzar for the Troops if they take the Field & permit Mr. Kiernander to go with them. We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants GEORGE PIGOT—STRINGER LAWRENCE—HENY. POWNEY——ALEXANDER WYNCH—WILLM. PERCEVAL—ROBT. PALK.

Fort St. George
10th. February 1756.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

GEORGE PIGOT ESQR.,	GOVERNOR PRESIDENT	THURSDAY THE 12TH.
STRINGER LAWRENCE	HENRY POWNEY	
...	ALEXANDER WYNCH	
WILLIAM PERCEVAL	ROBERT PALK	

MR. ORME *absent on Service.*

The following Letters from Major James Kilpatrick Read, with Copy of an Agreement made between him and Murtaz ally Cawn the Killedar of Veloor.

TO THE HOÑ'BLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQR. PRESIDENT & GOVERNOR &CA. COMMITTEE AT FORT ST. GEORGE.

Hoñ'ble Sir & Sirs

No. 5.

I am honor'd with your Letter of the 3d, and the Duplicate of the 31st ultimo.

This day as I found no probability of getting the Nabob's Affairs settled with Murtaz ally Cawn as he had deceiv'd me in not sending back his Vackeel as he promis'd, I determined to move with the Army and encamp on the Ground where I should remain were we to carry on Operations against the Place. I hope this small motion of ours will either frighten him into compliance with some reasonable Terms, or put us at a certainty how far the French intend assisting him; I have advices by some of my own People that a Party of 400 Europeans, 700 Sepoys 6 Guns and 2 Mortars ma ch'd yesterday to Balchitty's Choultry 2 Corse on this side of Pattipet; These Parties are kept in motion to alarm us, and probably may not advance within reach, without they find we are actually determin'd on the reduction of the Place: however should this Motion of ours make them continue their Rout this way, I shall march the Army back on the Arnee Road, and endeavor to bring them to Action, if after sending a Protest to the Commanding Officer in the manner you direct they should persist and not give the Satisfaction requir'd.

I have from time to time laid before you every particular that has occurr'd on the Expedition, and as well my own as the Ingineer's Opinion in respect to the Strength of Veloor, which on our nearer approach is far from appearing less difficult than we first imagined, you will judge therefore how far it is in my power to act against it, for was there no European force to guard against, with the few Stores I have here, the attempt if not altogether impracticable, would at least be very hazardous, what prospect then can I have, when the Killedar in his last resource can always be protected by the French; for these reasons I am of Opinion, that any Terms to keep him in our Interest at this time is much preferable to acting against him without a sufficient Force to prevent any Troops throwing themselves into, or relieving the Place, should therefore Murtaz ally Cawn make any tolerable Proposals I will endeavour to compromise with him. I am with the greatest Respect Honble Sir & Sirs Your most Obedt & most hble Servant

Camp before Veloor.
6 Febry 1756.

JAS. KILPATRICK.

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[12th.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1756.*——

To the Honble George Pigot Esqr. President & Governor & the Gentlemen of the Committee at Fort St. George.

No. 6. Hon'ble Sir & Sirs

Since addressing you the 6th Instt. I am honour'd with yours of the 5th No. 5, and this day Lieutenant Frazer with his Detachment and Lieutenant Brookes with the Mortar and Stores from Arcot join'd the Army.

I have been some days past preparing every thing for erecting a Battery, and should have began this day had not the Killedar made Proposals for an Accommodation on tolerable advantageous Terms, I am in treaty with him and hope to settle every thing to your Satisfaction in a day or two, otherwise I shall proceed against him in the best manner I am able.

The Sepoy cloathing is receiv'd and shall be deliver'd out tomorrow, and the Order for payment of it put in Execution. I am with the greatest Respect Hoñ'ble Sir & Sirs Your most Obliged & most Obedient humble Servant

Camp before Veloor.
8 Febry 1756.

James Kilpatrick.

To the Hoñ'ble George Pigot Esqr. President & Governor &ca. Committee of Correspondence at Fort St. George.

No. 7. Hoñ'ble Sir & Sirs.

As you recommend the accepting reasonable Terms from Murtaz ally Cawn, and as the present Situation of Affairs require that we should rather accommodate matters amicably, I have thought it for the Company's Interest to settle on these Terms and grant him the inclosed Cowle, on a promise as you will see by the Copies that it shall be either approved or disapproved by you, in either case you will please therefore to send me your Resolutions as soon as possible, and if it meets with your approbation it must be return'd confirm'd to him by the Governor & Council. You will observ'd [*sic*] I have answer'd for nothing on the part of the Nabob, neither has he empower'd me or any other person here to treat for him, the Killedar press'd much a confirmation of those Articles enter'd into between him and Abdul Bob Cawn I answer'd it was not in my power to do more than recommend it to your Consideration, to write to the Nabob on that Subject; On his part he is to pay in ready money and Soucars Bills Half a Lack of Pagodas and twenty five thousand Rupees, and to give Jagueers on the Vangoal Man for half a Lack of Pagodas more due to him from the Districts near Nelour, He is also to enter into a strict Alliance of Friendship with us, the form of which Treaty you will please to enclose me in the manner you would have it sign'd by him, I have received twenty thousand Rupees and dispatch'd his Letters by our own Hircaras to call back the Soucar Merchants from Arcot, without whose Assistance He cannot comply with our Terms, however as I am assured they will have no objection to paying the Money or giving proper Securities for it I am under no apprehensions but every thing will be ready to be perform'd on his part before I receive your answer, I shall therefore remain on this Ground (without any motions of the French should make it necessary to change my Disposition) till I am honour'd with your further Instructions as well with respect to the Killedar of Veloor as the future Disposition of the Troops in case you approve of this Treaty.

The French by the last Accounts still remain at Balchitty's Choultry 5 Malabar Miles from Chittapetthe Killedar of that Place in answer to a Letter of mine has desired four Gunners which I sent to him this morning. I am with the greatest Respect, Hoñ'ble Sir & Sirs Your most Obliged and Obedient humble Servant

Camp near Veloor
10th Febry 1756.

James Kilpatrick.

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———*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1756.*——— [1756.]

An Agreement enter'd into between Major James Kilpatrick commanding the English Army encamped before Veloor on the part of the English East India Company and Murtaz ally Cawn Febry 9th, 1756. To be approved of or disapproved by the Governor and Council of Fort St. George.

In consideration of the Articles agreed to be enter'd into, and complied with by Murtaz ally Cawn I promise on my part to suspend any Hostilities against the Fort of Veloor, or any part of the Districts belonging thereto, and march the Army back to its former Camp till I have laid the whole Proceedings before the Governor and Council of Madras and Nabob Anneverde Cawn on their approving of which a Copy of the said Agreement sign'd by them shall be given to Murtaz ally Cawn; Otherwise in case they do not approve, this Agreement on both Sides shall become void and of no Effect, and any Sums of Money or Securities received by me from Murtaz ally Cawn in consequence of it shall be return'd to him, I also promise on the part of the English Company to take him into their Alliance and Friendship, and that in case any of his Forts or present Possessions should be attack'd or Disturbed by any of his Enemies or that any of the Pollygars or Jemidars subject to him refuse to pay the customary Dues in such Case the English shall furnish him such a Force as they can reasonably spare or he demand paying the Expence of them, I furthermore promise to use my Interest with the Governour and Council and Nabob Annaverde Cawn to have this Agreement fully confirm'd by them.

The Agreement made by Major Kilpatrick with Murtaz ally Cawn on condition of his paying one hundred thousand (100,000) Pagodas and twenty five thousand (25,000) Rupees 50,000 Pagodas & 25000 Rupees in ready money or Soucar's Bills and 50,000 Pagodas in Jagueers of the Vangoal Districts being unanimously approved by the Committee, the following Treaties ratifying the said Agreement and promising mutual Friendship in future between the Company, the Nabob and Murtaz ally Cawn are now drawn out conformably to Major Kilpatrick's Engagement with the Killedar.

Agreement to be sign'd by Murtaz ally Cawn.

I Murtaz ally Cawn relying on the Friendship, assistance and protection of the English and the Nabob Annaverde Cawn Bahaudar and being thoroughly persuaded they will perform the Agreements they have this day enter'd into with me, do therefore declare that I am at this time and will continue strictly in their Alliance and should the troubles in this Country break out afresh I will assist them to the utmost of my Power.

And I promise constantly to pay the usual Tribute to the Nabob.

Agreement to be sign'd by the Presidt & Committee.

We the underwritten Governor and Committee for the management of the Affairs of the East India Company do Promise in case Murtaz ally Cawn shall comply with his Agreement annex'd hereto that We on our parts will constantly regard him as a Friend and Ally both to us & the Nabob, and at all times protect and support him as such. In case any of his Forts or present possessions should be attack'd or disturb'd by any of his Enemies or that any of the Pollygars or Jemidars subject to him refuse to pay the customary dues in such case we will furnish him with such a Force as we can spare or he reasonably demand, He paying the Expences of the said Troops.

And We further promise that when he Murtaz ally Cawn shall have complied with the Engagements he enter'd into the 9th. of this present Month with Major James Kilpatrick commanding our Army, the said Army shall immediately leave his Territories, for which purpose the necessary Orders are given.

Sign'd at Fort St. George and Seal'd with the Honble Company's Seal the 12th. day February 1756. GEORGE PIGOT—STRINGR. LAWRENCE—HENRY. POWNEY—ALEXANDER WYNCH—WILLM. PERCEVAL—ROBt. PALK.

Compa. Seal.

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[12th.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1756.*——

Order'd that the foregoing Agreements be transcribed in two Copies, Sign'd on our Part and forwarded to Mr. Orme and Major Kilpatrick with Directions to leave one with Murtaz ally Cawn and return us the other as soon as it is sign'd by him (Murtaz ally Cawn).

But as by the Discourse of his Vackeel we have some Reason to suspect that he will not consent to Stipulate in writing to pay the Nabob an Annual Tribute It is Agreed that two other Copies of the Agreements leaving out in Murtaz ally's the words "And I promise to pay the usual Tribute to the Nabob" be transmitted to morrow to Messrs. Orme and Kilpatrick that in case the others should be positively rejected they may get these Ratified, wherein nothing being said of the annual Tribute the Nabob will always have a Right to demand what has been usual and therefore the Committee do not judge the Stipulating it to be so essential as to put aside the Agreement, if the Killedar should object only to that Part of it, and offer to comply with the other Articles.

Agreed that Directions be sent Major Kilpatrick to march the Army to Arcot and reduce all unnecessary Expences, as soon as he shall find a Secure Payment of the Sums to be received from Veloor.

GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
...
A^R. WYNCH.
WILL^M. PERCEVAL.
ROB^T. PALK.

Pursuant to the foregoing Resolutions Sent the following Letter to Robert Orme Esqr. and Major James Kilpatrick with two Copies of the intended Agreement with Murtaz Ally Cawn.

To ROBERT ORME AND
JAMES KILPATRICK ESQ^RS.

Gentlemen.

Observing by a Letter from Major Kilpatrick of the 10th. that he had the day before settled with Murtaz ally Cawn on more advantageous Terms than we had reason to expect when Mr. Orme left us, we are now to Signify our approval thereof, and having conformable to the Plan of that Agreement Major Kilpatrick enter'd into, form'd one as well for the Killedar to sign on his part as we on ours, the same comes inclosed to you in two Copies one of which Mr. Orme will bring with him sign'd by the Killedar. We would have you particularly careful not to disgust the Nabob on this Occasion, and think therefore if the Army is not moved from Veloor Mr. Orme should wait upon the Nabob with these Agreements as he is included and should therefore ratify them.

We don't doubt but these Agreements will be entirely Satisfactory to the Killedar, except that Part which obliges him to pay the usual Tribute, for by what we have learnt from his Vackeel and Judge from the Pride of the Man, he could wish to have no mention of this in the Agreement, However we hope that the same reasons which have brought him to terms at present may induce him to engage for the future also. It does not indeed appear to us very essential whether it be included or not for as it is no where promised that he should be freed from Payment of the Tribute, we should doubtless be at Liberty to demand it, Imagining however it will be more Satisfactory to the Nabob that it should be Stipulated, we would have you endeavor to bring the Killedar to accede to the Agreements we now send, but that the Negociation may not be retarded and the Troops kept longer in the Field than necessary, we will to morrow send you two other Copies leaving out the Words "And

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———*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1756.*——— [12TH.]

I promise to pay the Usual Tribute to the Nabob " which you will get ratified if the others should be absolutely refused. We are Gentlemen Your most Obedient Servants GEORGE PIGOT—STRINGER LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY——ALEXANDER WYNCH—WILLIAM PERCEVAL—ROBT. PALK.

Fort St. George

12 Febry. 1756.

Sent also the following Letter to Major James Kilpatrick,

To MAJOR JAMES KILPATRICK.

Sir No. 7.

Our last Letter acquainted you that at the Desire of Murtaz ally Cawn's Vackeel we had come to a Resolution, and accordingly sent Mr. Orme who from his Knowledge of Moors we esteem'd the best able to ease you of a part of the Trouble in settling with the Killedar, but we are extremely well pleased to find by your Letter of the 10th. you have concluded this Affair on such advantageous Terms, we approve entirely of the joint Agreement, and have formed one in the same Terms which we now inclose to you and Mr. Orme jointly. When you are thoroughly satisfied that the Sum stipulated by you is secure, we desire the Army may return to Arcot where you will reduce the Batta and all unnecessary Expence. We are Sir Your most Obedt Servants GEORGE PIGOT—STRINGER LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY——ALEXANDER WYNCH—WILLIAM PERCEVAL—ROBT. PALK.

Fort St. George

12 Febry 1756.

The President Receiv'd a Letter from Colonel Adlercron dated the 9th. Instant as enter'd in the Book of Correspondence with him No. 18 and accompanying the said Letter came three Packets for Europe one directed to the Secretary at War one to the Judge Advocate General, and one to Colonel Napier, also a small case directed to the Judge Advocate General.

13TH. Sent the following Letter to Robert Orme Esqr., and Major James Kilpatrick inclosing two other Copies of the Agreements enter'd in the Minutes of the last Committee, leaving out the words, *And I promise to pay the usual Tribute to the Nabob.*

To ROBERT ORME AND
JAMES KILPATRICK ESQRS.

Gentlemen

Pursuant to our Letter of yesterday we now enclose two other Copies of the Proposed Agreements with Murtaz ally Cawn leaving out the words " And I promise constantly to pay the usual Tribute to the Nabob ".

This Tribute we understand ought to be 5 ℔ Cent on the Jagueers &ca., Subject to the Killedar besides his Share of the Moratta Petty; As some of his former Jagueers are now in Possession of the French, his Tribute must consequently be so much the less. If the particular Sum to be annually paid can be stipulated to the Nabob's Satisfaction we would recommend it to you to fix it, because by that means all possibility of future Dispute would be avoided. We are Gentlemen, Your most Obedient Servants GEORGE PIGOT &cA. COMMITTEE.

Fort St. George.

13 Febry 1756.

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FRIDAY THE 13TH.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1756.*——

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

GEORGE PIGOT Esq^R., GOVERNOR PRESIDENT
STRINGER LAWRENCE HENRY POWNEY
..... ALEXANDER WYNCH
WILLIAM PERCEVAL ROBERT PALK.
M^R. ORME *absent on Service.*

Two Letters from Colonel Adlercron dated the 7th. and 9th. Instant read as enter'd in the Book of Correspondence with him No. 17 & 18, Inclosing a Representation of the Surgeon of the Regiment concerning the necessity of sending the Sick or wounded Men whom there may be occasion to remove from the Field into the Company's Hospital and of putting the Kings Surgeons on the same footing in every respect with those in the Company's Service—Desiring that an Experienced Officer of the Company's may be order'd to accompany the Regiment when they take the Field—That a Cypher may be prepared for our Correspondence and a Linguist provided for him.

The Contents of Colonel Adlercron's foregoing Letters being consider'd it is Agreed that the Sick or wounded of the Regiment may be removed from the Field into the Company's Hospital, the Kings Surgeon paying the Expence in the manner practis'd in M^r. Boscawen's Time, and that the Surgeon and Surgeon's Mates of the Regiment be allowed the same Batta in the Field as the Company's—That a proper Officer be appointed to accompany the Regiment when they take the Field—That a Cypher be prepared to be sent Colonel Adlercron if Hostilities should commence, and as Colonel Adlercron has requested M^r. Kiernander may take the field with him. That he Serve as a Linguist untill Major Kilpatrick joins them, who has the only proper Person we know for a Linguist.

Letters from M^r. Starke to the President read advising that there are several Deserters at Tinnevelly belonging to Captain D'Illens and Captain Zeiglers Companies who are desirous of returning to their Colours under Promise of Pardon, and requesting to know whether the four Companies of Deve Cotah Seapoys sent lately to Fort S^t. David are to be allowed Batta during their Stay in that Garrison.

Agreed that Pardon be granted to as many of the Tinnevelly Deserters as will return to their Colours and that M^r. Starke and Captain Caillaud do make it known to them. The Committee cannot help being surprized at M^r. Starke's Quere about Batta and do Agree to write him in answer that it is to be observed as an Invariable Rule that no Person whatever is to be allowed Batta in any one of the Company's Garrisons.

The following Letter from Robert Orme Esqr., read.

TO THE HOÑ'BLE GEORGE PIGOT Esq^R., PRESIDENT
&C^A. GENTLEMEN OF THE SECRET COMMITTEE.

Hoñ'ble Sir & Sirs

I arrived here this day at Noon since which my time has been employed in visits to the Nabob and in hearing many and very different Intelligences from Camp. At last the true one came which I now transmit to You lest the Letters from Camp should be more Tardy. It is Extract of a Letter from Major Kilpatrick to Captain Maskelyne.

I have just now communicated this to the Nabob who seems extremely disatisfied that the Terms of Alliance against all his Enemies should be granted by us to the Killedar of Veloor, he says that it is erecting a Dominion within a Dominion; and asks what will be the consequence if hereafter he the Nabob shall be obliged to go to War with him. He desires time to consult what Articles he possibly can accede to with Veloor.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1756.*—— [13TH.]

I make no doubt but that the present Treaty will be very fully deliberated, and that I shall receive full and positive Directions from you, for as I do not hear that Major Kilpatrick Stipulates for an annual Tribute in return for our perpetual Friendship; and as this was to be the Basis of my Negociation with Veloor, if it extended beyond barely receiving a Sum for removing our Troops from his Walls; It seems to me that I must be at a loss till I receive your farther and final Determination.

It may be right to acquaint you that the Nabob says the Vengole Money will not be paid without Trouble, and sending a Force for it.

I set out early in the morning for Camp and after having fully discours'd Major Kilpatrick, I intend to return hither to prepare the Nabob to a conformity to your Resolutions whatever they may be; Till these are known, I think it best to avoid going into Veloor, as I should have nothing to ask of him, and he might have many things to ask of me. I am with the greatest Respect Hon'ble Sir & Sirs Your most Obedient and most humble Servant

Arcot Fort. ROBERT ORME.

February 10th. 1756.
at 9 P.M.

The Extract of Major Kilpatrick's Letter contains an account of the Agreement concluded with Murtaz Ally Cawn, the same as we are advised by Major Kilpatricks Letter enter'd in the Minutes of last Committee.

It seems by what Mr. Orme writes in his above Letter that the Nabob is not pleased with the Agreement made between Major Kilpatrick and Murtaz Ally Cawn but the Objection he makes *supposing he should have occasion to go to War with him* is of very little weight, for it is impossible the Nabob can have occasion to go to War with Murtaz ally Cawn, whilst this last performs his Part of the Agreement, and whenever he fails to perform his part of the Agreement we are no longer his Friends, nor bound on our part to assist him. Agreed that it be recommended to Mr. Orme to discourse with the Nabob again on that Subject & the President will also write to him in the same manner.

The Sum of Polyput Pagodas Seven thousand Eight hundred (7,800) due from Bommerauze the 7th January last, and the like Sum due the 7th of this Month as appears by the Cadjan Obligation enter'd in these Minutes the 7th January last being yet unpaid, as well as Bill for Sixty five thousand Rupees due to the Nabob and the Company, as mentioned in these Minutes the 19th Janry last. The President is desired to write a pressing Letter to Bommerauze for Payment, threatening to send Troops against him if he delays any longer which Letter it is Agreed to transmit to Mr. Orme with Directions to forward it along with one from the Nabob and get an Answer from the Pollygar.

The following Letter from Captain Caillaud read, with Copies of Letters received by him from Mohofoz Cawn and his Vackeel at Tinnevelly.

To the Hon'ble George Pigot Esqr., President and Governor &ca., Gentlemen of the Committee at Madras.

Honble Sir & Sirs No. 21.

Since my last of the 3d January No. 20, I have been honor'd with two of your favors No. 19 & 20 dated the 8th and 20th Ultimo.

When the Grain was beginning to be cut I applied to the Killedar for an Order on the Villages from whence I was to receive the Nabob's Quota. He consented to it, but reckoning the Paddy at the rate of 2 Rupees a Colum*. I had before agreed with him that the Market Price should be our Standard, and insisted on receiving of it

* A Colum is 48 Seer.

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[18—] ———*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1756.*———

only at that Rate (27 Seer of Paddy ℔ Rupee) He persisted in refusing, and protracting the time, saying he would write to the Nabob. To cut short I have order'd all the Amuldars according to the different Produce of their several Districts to send into our Magazines the quantity of Grain which will answer the Sum demanded at the Market price.

May I beg Gentlemen you will please to desire the Nabob to be more punctual and positive in his Orders to the Killedar concerning the Money I am to receive from him.

Inclos'd is the Copy of a Letter from Mohofoz Cawn and also one from the Vackeel who stays by him, He seems to think that the Money will be paid if the Nabob sends an Order.

The Pollygar Securities absolutely refuse paying more than the first half, and for which only they say they were bound, they deny the other, but if we will promise to release them on the first payment, the Money is ready to be sent.

The French party is return'd from Toriour and have left there an Officer with 50 Men. I have heard no more (since my answer) from the Commandant about the Deserters, I believe that Affair is dropped, The Men are still confin'd here, I wait your Orders Gentlemen about them.

Only as the new Grain comes in I sell out the Old. I was obliged to drop my first Scheme of disposing of it at Tanjour. For on the late coolness between us, Monogee raised the Duties instead of lowering them as he first promised. It is possible in three or four Months the same Opportunity will offer, and he may sue that for a favour which now he seems to slight.

Mr. Newton sets out this Afternoon for Deve Cotah; As he has inform'd the President with every thing relating to that Business; I will beg leave to refer to his Letter. I have wrote to Tondiman concerning the complaints lately made against him, and desired he would desist. Monogee has wrote me a civil Letter desiring I would make up this Breach; and begs no more Europeans need be sent to Tanjour, As it is always the occasion of Disputes which fall upon him, He has proposed a meeting at Coylady to which I have consented; as I need not lay a night out of the Garrison on that Account.

A few days ago the French Commandant at Syringham desir'd leave for an Officer to come and take a List of the Prisoners names, desiring also that I would sign it. The latter of which I refused without first acquainting you Gentlemen, and having your Orders, But I permitted the Officer properly attended to do the first.

There are no Bengal Topasses belonging to this Garrison: they were all sent down with the Army as I had the honour to inform you.

Inclosed are the Accounts of Monthly Disbursements, As also Military returns. the form of those for the Stores &c^{a}, I have somewhat changed and ranged the Several Articles under their respective heads, I have also at the Bottom inserted a Return of the Artillery which on a General Survey was found unserviceable either for Field or Garrison, The latter may be entirely struck out of the future Returns if you think proper, the other may go on as usual. I am with great Respect, Hoñble Sir and Sirs Your most Obed^{t} and faithful Servant

Trichenopoly
2^{d} Febr^{y} 1756. J. CAILLAUD.

Mohofoz Cawn's Letter to Captain Caillaud Saff Jung dated Tinnevelly 14th January 1756.

I hope you have received my answer to your former Letter to me by your Vackeel Rajah Pandetes, this is to acquaint you that Colonel Heron not knowing the custom of the Country, and not taking my advice would absolutely farm the Country for two Lacks of Rupees to Tetarapa Modelair, when I could get at the same

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1756.*—— [13TH.]

Time 3 Lacks of Rupees, besides the Expences of the Military Sepoys and my own Horsemen, I pass'd a Bill for 100,000 Rupees in favor of the Company only to hinder the Colonel from giving the Country to Tetarapa Modellair. The Colonel sent a Party of Europeans out to receive the Tribute from the Pollygars at his own pleasure without enquiring of me how much those People were to pay; took some People as Security along with him, and having been at Pullitavre's Place without taking his Fort, marched away to Madura where he received some money from Barcatolla, I don't know how much he received from him, it don't become a Man of my Character to write against a Gentleman, else I have a great many things more to say, which I will pass in Silence.

It is not possible for me to write you the Insolent Behaviour of the King of Travencore's People jointly with Mahomed Cawn Pullitavre and some other Pollygars, plundering and burning the Country and threatening to come and fight me. I don't see any possibility of collecting the Tribute from the Pollygars and Rent from the Farmers of this Country, Except you'll send me an Army of Europeans to force them to it. I write continually to the Nabob for the same Purpose.

I have heard with great pleasure from your Vackeel your Generosity, Prudence, and other good Qualities, continue your friendship to me, and let me always know that you are well.

RAJAH PANDETE YOUR VACKEEL AT TINNEVELLY
JANUARY 14TH 1756.

Great & Mighty Sir.

This is to let you know that I have desired Mohofoz Cawn several times to pay the Ballance of the Company's Money, to which he answer'd me to apply for it to the Nabob Annaverdy Cawn at Arcot, that he could not pay a Cash without his Order. I wish you would send me the said Order for Payment as soon as possible, it being the proper Time to get money.

Naby Cawn Cattack; Mahomet Cawn, Pollytavre, and some other more Pollygars have brought an Army into the field of 500 horsemen and 7000 matchlock fellows, and are burning and destroying Naddomandelum Country, and give out that after this Expedition they will come to Tinnevelly for the same purpose. Abdul maley Cawn Son-in-law to Mohofoz Cawn Governor of the said Naddomandelum, has retreated to Madura and has left a good party of Men to defend a Fort in the said Country.

If you don't send a proper Chief with an European Army into this Country nothing can be done nor can any Money be collected.

As the Vackeel at Tinnevelly writes that Mohofoz Cawn waits the Nabob's Order to pay the Ballance of one hundred and twenty one thousand (1 1,000) Rupees due from him to the Company it is Agreed to request of the Nabob immediately to send such an Order.

And as it appears by Captain Caillaud's Letter that it will be in vain to detain the Pollygar Hostages at Trichenopoly any longer in the hopes of obliging them to pay the whole Sum due from the Pollygars It is Agreed to receive the first payment which they promise and for which only they say they were bound; That Captain Caillaud be accordingly directed to release them upon the Receipt of the first half, recommending it to him at the same time to endeavor to get some Security for the Remainder.

Agreed that the unserviceable Artillery &c^{a} mention'd in Captain Caillaud's Letter be continued at the Foot of the Returns of Stores because it is possible an account may be required of them at the conclusion of a Peace as they are a Part of the Stores taken from the French during the Troubles.

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[13TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1756.*——

The following is Copy of a Letter from the Killedar of Trichenopoly to the Nabob concerning the Difference mention'd by Captain Caillaud to be between him and the Killedar on the Subject of the measure and Price of the Grain to be laid in Store for the Garrison of Trichenopoly.

FROM SYDALLY CAWN KILLEDAR AT TRICHENOPOLY TO THE NABOB.

You was pleased to order a quantity of Paddy to the amount of 125,000 Rupees to be kept in the possession of the Circar with the Knowledge of Captain Caillaud, but this Gentleman desires the same to be deliver'd into his Custody saying that it was the Governor's Order. The present Price of the Grain here is as follows.

1st	Sort sold at	16 fanams	℔ Calam
2d	do. do.	15½ fans	℔ Calam
3d	do. do.	15 fans	℔ Calam.

But the Captain requires it to be deliver'd him one with another at 12¾ fanams ℔ Calam by his own measure or Seer which weighs 36 Tackas whereas the Country Seer which is usual throughout the whole Country weighs only 32 Tackas; I promised the Captain to send for your answer about this Affair in 8 Days.

Agreed to send Captain Caillaud a Copy of the foregoing Letter and to acquaint him that our Intention is that all the Grain be deliver'd at the Publick Market Price and by the Measure there commonly used.

Letter from John Smith Esqr. read, as follows.

TO THE GENTLEMEN OF THE SECRET COMMITTEE AT FORT ST. GEORGE.

Gentlemen

I receiv'd the honor of your Letters dated the 20th. and 26 Ult°. Three days past I sent ten Topasses belonging to the Bengal Establishment to Fort St. David advising Mr. Starke of the Number, Here are also three Corporals who desire your permission to return to Bengal, having their Families at that place.

Agreable to your Direction I have order'd Leathern Coverings to be made for the Musket Locks instead of Wax Cloth.

I had before taken a Deposition in writing from Comrapah and the Subedars relating to the Affair of Captain Spear, and the Letter inclosed from him was his Answer to it, Permit now Sirs to say something in his Favour. Captain Spear has served the Hon'ble Company a long time and always behaved like a brave Officer, and tho I cannot by that excuse his taking money from the Sepoys, his paying it back I hope will induce you this time to pardon in him what some other Officers in the Service I hear have done as well as him.

It was by Captain Spear's appointment but Mr. Hopkins's neglect, that new Sepoys were enlisted since your Orders to the contrary.

Agreable to the new Regulation I should have appointed six Serjeants to the Sepoys but here are not above three that can be spared from the Garrison Service. Mr. Darke has acted as Adjutant and exercised the Military and Sepoys, If you think proper to favor him with the Overplus, it may be a reward and encouragement to his good Behaviour.

Before the Receipt of your Last Letter two Vacancies were fill'd up in the Jemedars, but in future I shall do as you have order'd. I am with Respect Gentlemen Your most Obedient & most hble Servant

Deve Cotah
the 3d Febry 1756. JOHN SMITH.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1756.*—— [13TH.]

The Offences committed by Captain Spears seem to us of too important a Nature to be passed over without a Trial, we shall however defer coming to a final Resolution on this Subject untill we have seen the Depositions taken by Mr. Smith and discoursed with Mr. Smith himself, who will shortly return hither.

Although we cannot but commend Mr. Darke's Diligence in exercising and training the Men at Deve Cotah, we think it nevertheless improper to give him an Allowance as Adjutant for fear of making a Precedent for a new Expence it being the Duty of the Serjeant Major to train the Military and Sepoys at all those Garrisons where the Number of Men as [*sic*] but small & no Adjutant having ever been allowed.

Letters from the King of Tanjour and Monogee Read, as enter'd in the Country Correspondence No. 31 & 32 in answer to the Letters wrote them in Consequence of the Resolutions made in Committee the 7th Instant on the Subject of the Dispute with Tondiman—The Tenor of these Letters is, that pursuant to our Advice the King defer'd attacking the Countries he claims from Tondiman to a proper time, and that relying on the Continuance of our friendship and Protection he is assured we shall settle the Affairs of his Country in a proper manner.

Order'd that Letters of Friendship be wrote to the King of Tanjour and Monogee advising them also that by the Behaviour of the French since our last Accounts of the Motions of their Troops we imagine it is not their Design to begin Hostilities, that it is however necessary we should be prepared.

Letter from the Nabob read as enter'd No. 38 concerning Tetarapah Moodelair's Offer of renting the Tinnevelly Countries, he gives it as his Opinion that the Man's designs cannot be sincere, as it will be impossible for such a Person to settle Countries which Mohofoz Cawn with a large number of Troops has been for a whole year attempting in vain to regulate; He recommends therefore that the Intentions of the said Tetarapah Moodelair be well enquired into and if afterwards he will give Security for twelve Lack of Rupees a year either on Buckunjee's or Poorsutum's House, the Country may be let to him.

The President having sent for the said Tetarapah Moodelair who is now daily expected here it is Agreed to defer writing the Nabob any thing further on the Subject untill we have discoursed with him concerning his Proposals.

Captain Maskeylyne advises under date the 6th Instant that the French Battalion near Chingee consists of Six hundred Europeans, thirteen Companies of Sepoys, Six field Pieces and two large Guns, That Mr. D'auteiul arrived at Chingee three days before, that they have three hundred more Europeans and thirteen hundred Seapoys encamped near Pondichery, and that the whole are under Orders to proceed for Veloor on the first commencement of Hostilities.

As Major Kilpatrick has People abroad to bring him constant Intelligence and has full Orders from us how to act on all Occasions, it is not necessary to give him any further Cautions or Instructions.

Letter from Captain Polier at Changleput representing the necessity of keeping a Smith for the usual Attendance of that Fort—Agreed that he be permitted to entertain one as long as he shall find the Service require it.

GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.

...

AR. WYNCH.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.
ROBT. PALK.

Pursuant to the Resolutions of the foregoing Committee

Sent a Letter of this Date to Colonel Adlercron as enter'd in the Book of Correspondence with him No. 19.

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[13TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1756.*——

Also the following Letters to Richard Starke Esqr. Robert Orme Esqr., John Smith Esqr., & Capt. Jno. Caillaud.

To RICHARD STARKE ESQR.

Sir

The President has laid before us your Letters of the 7th, 8th & 10th Instant.

Send word to the Deserters at Tinnevelly that as many of them as will return to their Colours shall have full Pardon, We wrote in the same manner to Captain Caillaud.

We could not but be somewhat surprized at the Doubt express'd in your Letter of the 10th whether the Sepoys from Deve cotah were to be allowed Batta during their Stay in your Garrison. You cannot certainly be ignorant that no Person whatever is to be allowed Batta in any one of the Company's Garrisons. We beg you will observe this an inviolable Rule. If these Seapoys had two or three days Batta for their Subsistence on the Road given them by Mr. Smith it is as much as they ought to have, and if they have received any since We desire it may be refunded.

We have directed Mr. Smith to send three Corporals of the Bengal Detachment from Deve Cotah to Fort St. David Please to transmit us a List of all the Topasses and Military in your Garrison who came from Bengal specifying how many and which of them are desirous of returning thither.

We inclose you a Letter for Colonel Adlercron to be seal'd and deliver'd after you have perused it. In case the Troops should take the Field you will be pleased to give Orders that such Medicines or necessaries for the Sick as the Surgeon of the Regiment may want and you can Spare be supplied, he paying the Expence, and that such Sick or wounded of the Regiment as may be sent in from the Field be receiv'd into the Company's Hospital, Colonel Adlercron paying for them at the same rate as Mr. Boscawen did. We are Sir Your most Obedt Servants GEORGE PIGOT —STRINGER LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY——ALEXR. WYNCH—WILLIAM PERCEVAL— ROBERT PALK.

Fort Sr. George
13th Febry 1756.

To ROBERT ORME ESQR.

Sir

We have receiv'd your Letter from Arcot dated the 10 Instant. The Directions contain'd in our joint Letters to you and Major Kilpatrick will be sufficient, and with regard to the Nabob's Objections the President has wrote him and you will please also to represent to him that as long as Murtaz ally Cawn performs his part of the Agreement, He can have no occasion to go to War with him, and when he fails to perform it we are no longer his Friends nor bound on our Part, certainly the Nabob's Government is preserved more entire by the present Agreement with Murtaz ally Cawn than it would have been by that which he himself purpos'd making.

The 7th. January there became due from Bommerauze 7,800 Polliput Pagodas, the 7th. February 7,800 more, and the 9th. March there will be further due 7,733.1/3 in full of his Cadjan Obligation to the Company besides a Bill of Sixty five thousand Rupees for the Nabob and us. The President has already once wrote to him for Payment and now writes more pressingly; inclosed we send you the Letter which you will please to forward along with one from the Nabob (having desired him to write on the Same Subject) and get an answer from the Polygar. We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants

Fort St. George
13 February 1756. GEORGE PIGOT &Co. COMMITTEE.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1756.*—— [13th.]

To JOHN SMITH Esqr.

Sir

We have received your Letter of the 3^d. We are obliged to M^r. Darke for his Diligence, but to give an Allowance as Adjutant at Deve Cotah would be establishing a Precedent for a new Expence. Our Intention is that the Serjeant Major at Deve Cotah as well as all the other Garrisons where the Number of Men is but small do exercise and train the Military and Sepoys.

After we have seen the Depositions of Comrapah &c^a., and have discoursed with you concerning Captain Spears's Behaviour we shall come to a Resolution what further Measures to take.

When you give over the charge of the Garrison to any other Person we desire you will leave with him the Book of Military Regulations as well as Copies of such other of our Orders as you think will be useful to him in the fulfilling of our Intentions. We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants GEORGE PIGOT—STRINGER LAWRENCE —HENRY POWNEY——ALEX^R. WYNCH—WILLIAM PERCEVAL—ROBERT PALK.

Fort S^t. George
13th. Febry 1756.

To CAPTAIN JOHN CAILLAUD

Sir

No. 22.

We have received your Letter of the 2^d. with the several Papers mention'd to be inclosed. The President has wrote to the Nabob to desire he will give such and so positive Orders to the Killedar as will prevent in future the Trouble you have had with him. We have told the Nabob that the Grain must be deliver'd at the Market Price and at the customary market Measure and have consented, as he insists much on its being under his own care that the Warehouses it shall be lodged in shall have two Locks, one key to be kept by you, the other by the Killedar. Inclosed is Copy of a Letter from the Killedar to the Nabob wherein you will see what account he gives of the Market Price and measure, you will be the best judge yourself how far that is to be depended on, and it is unnecessary for us to say more than that it is our Intention the Grain shall be deliver'd according to the Publick Market Price, and by the measure there commonly used; As long as the Killedar will see that the Grain is regularly brought in, let him give the Orders to the Amuldars as it will be more agreable to the Nabob; but when he neglects or delays so necessary a work you are right to provide for our Security by giving those Orders yourself.

In our last Letter dated the 4th. Instant we advised you of a Probability of a Rupture but as the French have not interupted our Operations nor we been obliged to proceed to Extremities against Veloor we imagine now that the Truce will not be broke. You will continue therefore to sell out the old Grain in such Proportions as the new comes in, the Method we leave entirely to you.

As we find no more than the first Payment is to be got from the Pollygars Securities now in your hands, you will please to receive the Money and release them. It is certain however that Vackeels or some fresh Security were to be left for the Second Payment and we recommend it to you to try what can be done by writing to the Pollygars or otherwise.

We have desired the Nabob to send us an Order on Mahofoz Cawn for the Money due to the Company. We propose transmitting this Order to you as soon as it reaches us.

You will keep the French Deserters for our further Orders, we wait an answer from M^r. Leyrit to a Letter lately wrote him on the Subject of some of our Men.

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[14TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1756.*——

Mr. Starke advises that there are some Deserters from Captain Polier and Captain Zeigler's Company still at Tinnevelly who are desirous of returning to their Colours on promise of Pardon we desire you will send them word in our name that as many of them as will return Shall be pardon'd.

The form of your return of Stores is very distinct and regular, Let the unserviceable Artillery be mention'd in the same manner at the Foot of every Return, because as they are of the Number of those taken from the French, an account may be perhaps required of them on the conclusion of a Peace.

We see no Occasion for your signing any List of French Prisoners, it is sufficient that they have an account of them from the Persons they employ to provide for their Subsistence. We are Sir Your most Obedt. Servants GEORGE PIGOT—STRINGR LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY———ALEXR. WYNCH—WILLM PERCEVAL—ROBT PALK.

Fort St. George
14 Febry. 1756.

15 Receiv'd a Letter from Mr. De Leyrit to the President dated the 12th Instant as enter'd in the French Correspondence No. 14.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

MONDAY THE 16.

GEORGE PIGOT ESQR. GOVERNOR PRESIDENT
STRINGER LAWRENCE HENRY POWNEY
..... ALEXANDER WYNCH
WILLIAM PERCEVAL ROBERT PALK.
MR. ORME *absent on Service.*

Letter from Mr. De Leyrit dated the 12th Instant No. 14 in answer to the President's of the 9th Read consisting of many ill grounded Assertions of Salabat Jung's Right over the Decan in which Right he says that he Salabat Jung and he only can legally demand the Tributes due from the Phousdars, Pollygars, Killedars &c.ᵃ of the Arcot Province, and that Mahomed Ally will be an Usurper untill he shall have received a Perwana from Salabat Jung. He insists that the Phousdars Killedars &c.ᵃ from whom we have received Money have been reduced since the Truce although we have proved them to have been in our Subjection before by Acknowledgements in writing, and Payment of Tribute. Without answering the Arguments contain'd in the President's Letter he calls them Sophisms which shall not he says prevent him from opposing all our Enterprizes against Veloor. The Building a Redoubt at Villenour he pretends to justify by saying it was on the Point of being compleated at the time of the Truce and as to Porto Novo, the Person who was sent to build a House there began some Fortifications without his Order which he put a Stop to immediately.

As Mr. De Leyrit founds all his Pleas on the Authority of Salabat Jung and scruples not to call the Nabob an Usurper; the Committee think it necessary to enter into a short Examination of their different Rights by calling to mind the Principal Events on which those Rights are founded.

This Examination must begin with the Massacre of Nazir Jung, whose lawful Authority over the Decan can by no means be disputed, and who came into this Province purposely to quell a Rebellion stirr'd up by the French Nation in favour of Erat Moodeen Cawn Nephew to Nazir Jung. As soon as Nazir Jung fell, Erat Moodeen Cawn was proclaim'd at Pondichery Subah of the Decan, and shortly after set out for Golcondah accompanied by a strong Body of French Troops, but he

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——— *FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1756.* ——— [16th]

was cut off by the Nabob of Currapah and Condanore before he got far from this Province. The French immediately proclaimed his Nephew Salabat Jung younger Brother of Nazir Jung Subah of the Decan in his Stead and conducted him to Golcondah. Him have they ever since Supported by force of Arms against Armies of the Morattas sent against him by the Mogul & against the Armies of the Mogul himself first under the Command of Gazedy Cawn elder Brother of Salabat Jung, and then of his Son Shawabadeen Cawn appointed successively Princes of the Decan, in prejudice of Salabat Jung of whose Appointment the Mogul was not even informed nor has it ever been confirm'd by him.

Mahomed Ally Cawn received the Phirmaunds of this Province from Nazir Jung. They have been confirm'd to him by the succeeding lawful Princes of the Dekan, Gazedy Cawn and Shawabadeen Cawn and by the Mogul himself By this plain Detail of Facts let it be decided whether Salabat Jung or Mahomed Aly merits most the Title of Usurper.

And although the whole of these Facts must be sufficiently known to all whose Province it has been to inform themselves of what has been the occasion of the late Troubles in India, yet lest Mr. De Leyrit's Arguments should gain Credit by not being answer'd it is Agreed to insert the Substance of the foregoing Detail in reply to his Letter now before us on the other parts of which it is only necessary to remark that if the Redoubt at Villenour was as perfect as he says at the time of the Truce, which does not appear by their being People yet employed upon it, no more work should have been done to it, and that we can look upon the Building at Porto Novo to be nothing less than a Fort as it has a strong Wall and four Bastions.

Both these Buildings being therefore in our Opinion Infringements of the Ninth Article of the Treaty, it is Agreed to summon Mr. De Leyrit to reduce his Fortifications at Villenour and Porto Novo to the State they were in at the time of the conclusion of the Truce.

The following Letters from Robert Orme Esqr. and Major James Kilpatrick read.

To the Honble George Pigot Esqr. President
& the Gentlemen of the Committee for Country Affairs.

Honble Sir & Sirs

I set out from Arcot this morning at 5 and with the utmost Dispatch did not arrive here till 4 in the afternoon, Major Kilpatrick has communicated to me his last address to you and all other Circumstances. I think it was not wrong in me to wave writing to Murtaz ally Cawn, and to give his Vackeel Dadaraw no hopes that I had power to undo the Major's Work for I found on my Arrival here what I suspected before that Velore had entertain'd hopes of other Terms from me, and even had deferr'd sending out more Money to him who expected it to day. Dadaraw who had been in with his Master came to me here at 5 and told the old Story of his Masters Poverty adding that none of the Shroffs would trust him. This, I brought a flat Contradiction of with me from Arcot where the Principal Shroff had told me that he would answer for any Sum Murtaz ally should order and I in consequence bid him repair to Velore where I hear he now is, The Vackeel press'd exceedingly that I should go in to his Master out of hand, when he said that I should be a Judge of all Matters. The English of this I construed to be Protraction, which our present Circumstances and Expence cannot admit.

I set myself down to consider with the Major Seriously on our Situation. The Treaty he has made appears to me for many Reasons an excellent one, the leaving us to settle Articles between the Nabob & Murtaz Ally is a Master Piece. In this reasoning it was my Business to confirm the Major's Operation and as my coming was unlucky at this crisis so I determined to work in order to bring all matters into the Channel they were before I came.

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[16th.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1756.*——

In consequence I wrote the enclosed to Murtaz ally, and by his Vackeel acquainted him that I had no Authority to interfere in the Major's Negociation and till that was comply'd with I was nothing. that done nothing should be wanting in me to obtain from the Nabob Terms for his Master; such as were worthy of the Justice of our Nation, and such as I was confident his Master would be satisfied with. I appointed 8 at night for an answer, declaring my resolution to return to Arcot at that hour.

It is ten and the Vackeel is come back with more words and nothing else, It is evident both to Major Kilpatrick and myself that whilst a hope of seeing me is entertain'd Murtaz ally will keep protracting on. I therefore return this Instant to Arcot, & dispatch back the Vackeel telling Him that I can do nothing till Major Kilpatrick is satisfied and that I shall be as much employ'd for his Master there, as I should be were I with him at Velore. This is true for I shall go to work with the Nabob hoping by to morrow night to hear that the Major has got money enough from the Fort to call me back again to Camp, where in such case I shall instantly return. The Major to morrow will parade a little in Camp as if approaching the Fort in earnest.

I can think of no better Plan and shall be happy if my poor endeavors meet your approbation, I have the honor to be with the most real Respect, Gentlemen, Your most Obedient and most humble Servant

Camp near Velore
Wednesday Febry 11th
at 11 P.M.

ROB. ORME.

From Robert Ome [*sic*] Esqr. to Murtaz ally Cawn Bahaudar dated 11th February 1756.

I came from Arcot to Camp hoping to hear that you had fulfill'd your Promises; I find it is not so for which I am exceeding sorry. I thought yesterday that you was in Friendship with the English, to day I know not what to think as you have not performed your Promise. If you are willing to have the friendship of the English and the Nabob, I have power and am willing to give both to you in the strongest manner. You know what is proper to be done, it must be done to night, shew yourseff wise and let our Friendship increase. What can I say more?

TO THE HOÑBLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQR.

Sir

I wrote the Committee on my arrival here when all my Informations were obscure. I wrote them last night from Camp when I was clearly informed of Matters. I arrived here this morning and have been much with the Nabob whom I find very averse to making any Treaty with Velore, but such as he shall dictate the Terms of. It is the character of this Man confirm'd I think to us by Experience that in his Adversity he will make any Concessions, as he did to Mysore. and on the glimpse of Prosperity his views of acquisition are as extravagant; I have just now told him that all the Men in his Country without Europeans would never take Velore. I wait impatiently your Resolutions. in the mean time I am making myself Master of as much matter of Fact relating to this Business, as the Nabob can or will furnish me with. I must beg you to send me immediately Abdul Bob Cawn's Articles and Mr. Saunders's Letter, likewise Abdul Bob Cawn's Articles sent by Maskelyne.

Morarow's Vackeel is come in here, he reports that his Master has got 400 Europeans mostly from Goa and Guns, and that he has fought a Battle with Balazarow and gained a compleat Victory taking 50 Horses and killing the Enemy 10 Men, he comes for Shot & Gunpowder.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1756.*—— [16TH.]

This Rebellion of Morarow's may I fear take off Balazarow's Attention from other and greater Matters. I think we should write him. I am with great respect Sir Your most Obedient and most humble Servant

Arcot
Febry 12th 8 P.M. ROBERT ORME.

I hear of no Alterations in Camp since I left it, and nothing is come in here from Velore.

TO THE HOÑBLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQR. PRESIDENT
&CA GENTLEMEN OF THE COMMITTEE FOR COUNTRY AFFAIRS.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

I this morning at 11 receiv'd the favour of your Letter directed to Major Kilpatrick and myself dated the 12th of February, enclosing the Agreements sign'd by you and to be sign'd by the Killedar of Veloor.

Writing without the assistance of Copies, I can not speak positively, but if my Memory does not fail me; the Terms of Major Kilpatrick's Agreement with the Killedar were that the English should settle a Treaty between him & the Nabob, and this seems to have been the Principal Consideration for the Sum he agreed to pay. Fully persuaded that Velore thought thus I was the greatest part of yesterday translating and diving into the Nabob's Sense of Abdul Vahab's Seven Articles. my Translation by another made separately I find to be right, and this assured I proceeded to find what Lengths the Nabob would permit me to go with Murtaz ally Cawn when we should meet, I did not get far yesterday.

On receipt of your orders I went again to the Nabob, and in compliance deliver'd the Letter address'd to him by the President and shew'd him without reserve the intended Treaties; He seem'd as he well might, extremely pleased with them, and bid me go away to Veloor and get them Sign'd. I told him that it would always be a pleasure to me to obey his Orders, but what if when I came to Veloor the Man should not sign them, nor pay the Money. He said I was to obey your Orders and he supposed to come back. I assured him that you did not expect from me to move on a Business which a Hircara might do just as well. That he knew there was little probability of obtaining the Terms agreed on with Veloor without some stipulations on his the Nabob's Part; and beg'd he would set down seriously to discuss what Points he could and what he could not concede to Veloor; Meerasset being present undertook this Labour, and in about 3 or 4 hours We got through it.

I shall from Camp write you fully on this Subject. the day declines, and it is necessary I set out. Suffice at present that I never saw so much Quibbling as in an Affair which one would think too Serious to admit of any; I speak not of Meerasset for he is a wise Men [*sic*].

I shall confer with the Major before I see Murtaz ally. I shall present him at first with nothing but your Letters, Orders and Treaties, As the Subject opens, I shall speak for the Nabob, But after all; I must give it as my Opinion that Murtazally is so fully persuaded that you will not act against him that without a confirmation of the contrary he will still shuffle on. This Confirmation must be sending two twenty four Pounders more from Madras with a great number of Shot, otherwise I think your Determination must be to raise the Seige and wait a more favorable Opportunity of convincing him we will not be trifled with.

This very Instant I receive the accompanying from Major Kilpatrick to the Committee. I set out for Veloor direct, and will pass thro all his Guards by whom

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[16TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1756.*——

if I am carried into the Fort, I am sooner at my Journey's End. I have the honor to be with perfect Respect Hoñble Sir & Sirs Your most Obedient and most humble Servant

Arcot Fort
14 Febry 4 P.M.

ROBERT ORME.

To the Hoñble George Pigot Esqr. President & Governor &c^a. Committee of Correspondence at Fort S^t. George.

No. 8. Hoñble Sir & Sirs

I did myself the honor to address you the 10th Inst^t. and enclos'd the Agreement I had enter'd into with Murtaz ally Cawn, since which I have great reason to believe he will endeavor to evade the execution of it, the night before I was honor'd with your last Letter N°. 6. He told some of my People that his Vackeel had wrote him from Madras, that a Councellor was coming up with full powers to enter into a Treaty and that he was not to demand more than a Lack of Rupees, this was the first time since I began to treat with him, that he gave the least hints of expecting more reasonable Terms than those I offer'd. As M^r. Orme saw his Vackeel after he return'd from the Fort and receiv'd Letters from the Kellidar he is a proper Judge what appearance there is of getting this Agreement finish'd; However he and I were both of Opinion that the only chance to effect it was his immediate Departure for Arcot which he did late last night, I have since made all the Shew of Military Preparations I possibly could without committing actual Hostilities, but to no purpose for he now pleads his Poverty, and pays no regard to my Threats, as he knows M^r. Orme is the Person sent by you to treat with him. I have all along laid before you every Occurrence as well as my Opinion of the Circumstances relating to the Expedition, I must therefore give it now; I think there is little chance of finishing this or concluding any other Agreement without M^r. Orme should immediately proceed for Veloor, The Influence he will have on the Killedar and the Services he has it in his power to do him with you and the Nabob cannot fail of bringing things to a conclusion, I have wrote M^r. Orme to this purpose, For my own part I entirely give over all hopes of compleating this Affair, tho no Endeavors of mine shall be wanting to Effect it. Agreable to your Instructions I shall forbear all Hostilities and continue in our present Encampment 'till I am favour'd with further Orders. I am with the greatest Respect Hoñ'ble Sir & Sirs Your most Obliged and Obedient humble Servant

Camp before Veloor
12 Febry.

JAMES KILPATRICK.

To the Hoñble George Pigot Esqr. President & Governor &c^a. Committee of Correspondence at Fort S^t. George.

No. 9. Hoñble Sir & Sirs

Nothing has occurr'd since my Letter of yesterday to give me hopes of Murtaz ally Cawn's fulfilling his Agreement enter'd into with me, on the contrary the Neloor Subedar who used to have the Gates open'd to him at all times was refused admittance last Night any other way than thro' the Wicket which I think he properly resented by returning immediately, He was given to understand they knew my orders were not to fight, and that M^r. Orme was the Person fully empowerd to settle with him; This morning he sent an Apology for his People's behaviour last Night with an Invitation to the Neloor, declaring he did not know of his being there or it should not have happen'd.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1756.*—— [16TH.]

He does not deny the Terms he settled on with me, but wants to treat further with respect to the Nabob. I am well assured of his Intentions to compromise matters and that he will settle his Affairs with you and the Nabob; I am therefore of Opinion the Army's Marching immediately to Arcot, will not in the least delay the execution of it, and will be a means of saving a heavy daily Expence to the Company. I am with great Respect Hon'ble Sir & Sirs Your most Obliged and Obedien^{t} humble Servant

Camp near Veloor
13th. Febry 1756. JAMES KILPATRICK.

To the Hoñ'ble George Pigot Esq^{R}. President & Governor &c^{A}. Committee of Correspondence at Fort S^{T}. George.

Hoñ'ble Sir & Sirs No. 10.

As Murtaz ally Cawn sent yesterday a Message desiring to speak to the Nellour Subedar and an Apology for what had happen'd the day before, I gave my consent he should go in along with my Dubash, on their Arrival he ask'd them why I would not consent to M^{r}. Ormes going into the Fort, that in him he placed his whole Security, and should not think of complying with any Part of the Agreement enter'd into with me till he had seen and talk'd with him and the longer that was deferr'd, so much more time it would take to make an end of the Affair, and there were several Articles to settle between the Nabob and him concerning which no one else was empower 'd to treat. He therefore desir'd he might go there immediately. As to the part I was to act, He plainly said I might do as I pleased, but that he would not fight with me or think of any other Business than settling his Affairs with M^{r}. Orme, as he was the Person sent up by the Company with full Instructions to settle every thing in dispute between them the Nabob, and him.

I have sent this Letter open to M^{r}. Orme also my two former ones, from which he will judge of the necessity of going immediately to Veloor, for it is my firm Opinion the Killedar has told me the truth and should the Army remain unactive ever so long in their Present encampment; I dare say you will have no reason to think otherwise; I should therefore imagine without you thought our Stay necessary to countenance the Conferences with M^{r}. Orme, the sooner we March'd into Quarters the better, as the daily Expences would be greatly lessen'd by it. I am with the greatest Respect Honble Sir & Sirs Your most Obliged and Obedient humble Servant

Camp before Veloor
14 Febry 1756. JAMES KILPATRICK.

It has proved very unlucky that we Deputed M^{r}. Orme to Veloor, but as we had no reason when we came to that Resolution to imagine Murtaz ally Cawn would offer such Terms and so soon to Major Kilpatrick it appear'd at that time to be the Speediest and most likely Method of finishing the Affair; And altho' Murtaz ally Cawn hoping no doubt at first from M^{r}. Orme's Arrival better Terms evaded and disacknowledged his Agreement of the 9th with Major Kilpatrick, yet when he finds all the Stipulations in his favor are made to depend on his Execution of that Agreement we think it not unlikely he may return to them. We approve entirely of M^{r}. Orme's Management on the Occasion and must wait the Result of his Conference with Murtaz ally Cawn.

Letter from Captain Maskelyne read advising that the Nabob has promised Payment of his Accounts of Repairs and further to advance twenty thousand Rupees to finish the Fortifications of Arcot according to an Estimate presented to him, the Nabob and transmitted also to the President.

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[16TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1756.*——

As the Nabob is himself at Arcot, approves of the Work and promises to advance the Money, the Committee are unwilling to interfere, although they cannot help remarking that it is a larger Draught than the Nabob can afford from his present Revenues.

GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
.....
A^R. WYNCH.
WILL^M. PERCEVAL.
ROB^T. PALK.

Sent the following Letters to Robert Orme Esqr. and Major James Kilpatrick pursuant to the Resolutions of the foregoing Committee.

To ROBERT ORME ESQ^R.

Sir

Since writing you the 13th we have received your Letters dated the 11th, 12th & 14th. The Papers you request in that of the 12th were dispatched to you last night. We are in hopes the Advantages of Protection and Friendship stipulated for Murtaz ally in the Treaties forwarded to you, which advantages are made to depend on his Execution of the Agreement he enter'd into with Major Kilpatrick the 9th will bring him back to those Terms which your Deputation at an unlucky Crisis made him retract. This we say is our hope, we approve of all the Steps you took to restore things to their former Channel and are satisfied you will manage throughout for the best.

We have a second Letter from M^r. DeLeyrit in reply to our Answer; he accepts the Meeting consented to by the President on his Proposal on condition however that our Troops be previously withdrawn from Veloor, the French to be in like manner marched back to Pondichery, otherwise he says War is inevitable; We defer sending our Answer 'till we hear further from you, for we shall be guided by the Success you may meet with, and not by his Threats. We are Sir, Your most Obedient Servants GEORGE PIGOT—STRINGER LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY——ALEXANDER WYNCH—WILL^M. PERCEVAL—ROBERT PALK.

Fort S^t. George.
16 Febry 1756.

To MAJOR JAMES KILPATRICK.

No 8. Sir

We have received your Letters N°. 8, 9 & 10 dated 12th, 13th and 14th. We are sorry to find that M^r. Orme's Arrival caused an Alteration in Murtaz ally Cawn's Offers but as all the Terms Stipulated for his Advantage in the Treaties we sent to you and M^r. Orme, depend on the Execution of the Terms he agreed on with you the 9th we hope to hear that he accedes at last to them. We think that the Neighbourhood of the Army may be of use in countenancing your Conferences, we would therefore have you remain untill something is settled, unless you and M^r. Orme who will be more certain judges of the Killedars Resolutions should find the Removal of the Troops to Arcot will be of no disservice in which case we leave it entirely to your own Discretion.

Some more Sepoy Coats are ready and will be with you before the End of the Month to the number of Six or Seven hundred. You will be pleas'd to resolve what Companies to give them to & make the Stoppages accordingly in the present Month. We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants

Fort S^t. George.
16 Febry 1756.

GEORGE PIGOT &C^A. COMMITTEE.

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—— *FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1756.* ——

THURSDAY THE 17.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

GEORGE PIGOT Esq^R. GOVERNOR PRESIDENT
STRINGER LAWRENCE HENRY POWNEY
... ALEXANDER WYNCH
WILLIAM PERCEVAL ROBERT PALK
M^R. ORME *absent on Service.*

The following Letters from Robert Orme Esqr. and Major James Kilpatrick Read.

TO THE HOÑBLE GEORGE PIGOT Esq^R. PRESIDENT &
THE GENTLEMEN OF THE COMMITTEE FOR COUNTRY AFFAIRS.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

I set out from Arcot yesterday at 5 in the Evening and arrived at the Pettah of Veloor by 8. I was carried to Murtaz ally who met me at the Gate of his Fort with much Ceremony. I went in and after delivering your Letters and talking in Generals proceeded to Camp appointing this day for a Conference.

I went to the Fort accordingly accompanied by Captn. Lee and M^r. Maunsel & Mahomed Isoof Cawn and after Ceremonies retired with Murtaz ally who was attended by Dadarow.

The Killedar spoke first, and to my utter astonishment after Professions of Friendship &c^a. to the English proceeded to a flat denial of having made any Terms or Agreements with Major Kilpatrick or with any Persons deputed by him; In general he said he had promis'd to give some Money according to his Abilities. I sent in for Captain Lee and Mahomed Isoof who both confirm'd to me as did Vencatachilum and the Linguist the iniquitous falsity of this Assertion. Mahomed Isoof with the true Spirit of a brave and Ingenuous Man warm'd so much in his Discourse with the Killedar on this Subject that had he been alone and not interrupted something Sinister would have probably happen'd. I put a Stop to the flat Contradictions of our Party to the Assertions of the Killedar by taking the Word. I told him I came to make no Retrospects; that you were too well satisfied with the honour of Major Kilpatrick to doubt his Word, and too attach'd to him to alter his Agreements. In consequence my Orders were without other Definitions to receive from him the Sum of 100,000 Pagodas, and 25,000 Rupees, that part of my Commission executed, I would give him a Paper well worth the Money; nothing less than a firm and lasting Alliance with the English, but I could not enter into any other Details till this was done. After which he might probably find I had it in my power to do him Service in other Matters. His Answer rested on the Topick of extreme Poverty & having made no Agreement. The Plea of Poverty I plainly told him was beneath him to make. For no one who Saw his Country or Fort would ever believe it. He said I had full power from you to make any Terms I thought proper. I assured him to the contrary and that all I wanted was a Positive answer yes or no, about the Money; before he gave which I desired him seriously to consider of the consequences, and expatiated on the Topicks of the benefits of our Alliance and the disadvantages of his having recourse to the French. He talk'd thro a Chain of Equivocations and kept off from the Money; this I as much adher'd to and after rising four or five times at last took my leave by telling him that my Orders were instead of writing to you as he recommended to me to write to S^t. David for the King's Regiment to move, he said that this Fort would then fall into the hands of the French. I told him from his own Conversation and from my knowledge of his good Sense, I was Sure he was too wise to take such a Step, and so we Parted.

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[17TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1756.*——

To give one Instance which may serve for all of his Subterfuges he said he had given no Sum in hand; he had order'd some Money to be put into a Bag and to be sent out to our Camp for Expences. had he named a Sum it would have implied a Stipulation.

Dadarow was silent the whole Time till seeing me determin'd to move, he ask'd me with some Vehemence whether or no I had not Orders at my leaving Madras to settle with his Master for a Lack of Rupees. This unravell'd the Mystery, if there was any, of his Master's behaviour. He (Dadaraw) had by his Representations brought on this Scene of Contradictions, & fearful of his Master's Resentment if any bad Consequences should ensue, wanted a Justification of his Ground Work from my Confession, I evaded giving him this Satisfaction.

You have before you Gentlemen a description which I can prove to be just. You will determine in what manner a Man of Murtaz ally's Character is to be treated. I fear I go beyond my Province in giving my Opinion. Attribute it to my Sollicitude for the common cause; The Reputation of our Arms is too deeply at Stake, to make the least attempt, without a determined Resolution not to be baffled in it. You know the consequences. and the same Reputation is equally concern'd in receding from Major Kilpatrick's Agreement. Every one whom we may in future Summon will protract in hopes of better Terms.

I shall wait your further Orders here or at Arcot; You are the best Judges what Service I can be of here, I am sorry I have yet been of none. I have the honor to be

Gentlemen

Camp near Velore — Your most Obed^{t}. & most hble Servant

15 February 1756 at 8 P.M. — ROBERT ORME.

No. 11. TO THE HOÑBLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQ^{R}. PRESIDENT & GOVERNOR &C^{A}. COMMITTEE OF CORRESPONDENCE AT FORT ST. GEORGE.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

This Evening M^{r}. Orme return'd from Veloor, and will fully inform you of the little Success he met with in his Negociations with the Killedar.

In the present Situation of Affairs I have judg'd it necessary to suspend any Operations against the Place till I am honor'd with your farther Instructions; and at the same time give you my Opinion as things now occur to me; The Reduction of the Fort on a nearer Survey is altogether as difficult as I first imagin'd and we can never hope to get Possession while the French Army lay so near, and have daily Opportunities of throwing Reinforcements into it; Murtaz ally Cawn makes no Scruple of declaring he has a certain thõ dangerous Resource in them, to attack therefore the Place in this Situation could not fail of making a Breach between the two Nations & what I more apprehend they might take an advantage of the Killedar's fears and possess themselves of the Fort. If circumstances as I confess I think they do, make this very probable why should we not rather open ourselves an easy passage to the Seige by the attack of the French themselves in which if we are successful we cannot fail of accomplishing the other, in either case a Rupture is unavoidable but the Success appears more dubious in one than the other.

Should the present Time be not altogether favorable for an open Rupture after the usage we have receiv'd from the Killedar, I think it would be much better to go away without exacting any terms than accept of such as he will be now inclinable to comply with; I am with the greatest Respect Hoñble Sir & Sirs Your most Obed^{t}. and most hble Servant

Camp before Veloor
15th. Febry 1756. — JAMES KILPATRICK.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1756.*—— [17th.]

The Committee having consider'd the above Letters from Mr. Orme & Major Kilpatrick do agree with them in Opinion that it would be more adviseable to avoid coming to any Agreement with Murtaz ally Cawn than to accept of Terms less Advantageous than those he enter'd into with Major Kilpatrick the 9th. Instant, as the consequence of receding the least from these Terms would probably be, That all others we may hereafter call upon would Protract, deceive & Equivocate in hopes of gaining the same Advantage.

The Consideration therefore is whether it is prudent to proceed at this time to the actual attack of Veloor. Such an Attempt would carry but little Prospect of Success, The French Army which is still encamped at Balchitty's Choultry near Chetteput would be able to interrupt the Operations of the Seige with continual Alarms and in case of Emergency to throw a Party into the Fort which would Secure that valuable Possession to them; Indeed our Point might possibly be gain'd by marching first to the Attack of the French Troops & in case of Success against them; returning again to the Seige but we rather chuse to put off for a time our Designs than to commence Hostilities when we may so soon expect our Superiour's Resolutions concerning the Truce, altho we think our Right is indisputable & that the French would be the Offenders if a Breach was to ensue.

It is Agreed therefore that Mr. Orme be directed, in case Murtaz ally Cawn perseveres in his Refusal, to leave the Agreements we sent, in the hands of Major Kilpatrik and return hither, as his presence will be necessary at the Dispatch of the Ship, and that it be recommended to Major Kilpatrick to remain with the Army a day or two longer near Veloor, & if in that time he perceives no likelihood of the Killedars coming to the Terms of the 9th, to march the Army to Arcot.

Letter from Murtaz ally Cawn as enter'd in the Country Correspondence No. 46 Read, mentioning not one word of his Agreement with Major Kilpatrick, but setting forth that he depends entirely on Mr. Saunders's Promise of Friendship.

The President is desired to represent to him in answer the ill Consequences of his Breach of Faith; that we cannot look upon him as a Friend nor receive his Vackeel untill he has cleared up that Affair.

GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
.....
AR. WYNCH.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.
ROBT PALK.

Sent the following Letter to Robert Orme Esqr. pursuant to the Resolution of last Committee.

To ROBERT ORME ESQR.

Sir

Your Letter of the 15 is this moment come to hand. We are of Opinion that your longer Stay will be unnecessary, and therefore if Murtaz ally continues in the not fulfilling his Agreement, Leave those we sent you with Major Killpatrick and return immediately, as your presence will be necessary at the Dispatch of the Ship. We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants GEO. PIGOT—STRINGR. LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY——ALEXR. WYNCH—WILLIAM PERCEVAL—ROBERT PALK.

Fort St. George.
17 Febry 1756.

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[18TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1756.*——

Sent the following Letter to Major Kilpatrick pursuant to the last Committee.

To MAJOR JAMES KILPATRICK.

No. 9 **Sir**

We have receiv'd your Letter dated the 15th. as also one of that date from Mr. Orme who has wrote us fully of the Conversation he had with the Killedar of Veloor. That Gentleman's Return being necessary at this time we have accordingly wrote him to come in but we think it very possible Murtaz ally may desire to see him again first; should he be still as unsuccessful as he has hitherto been we would have you remain with the Army a day or two longer; but if in that Time you see no likelihood of his coming to the Terms he before offer'd you, you will then march the Army to Arcot as we are determin'd to accept of nothing less.

We inclose you a Letter from the President to Murtaz ally with an English Copy for your Perusal. If he perseveres in his Refusal send in the President's Letter and one from yourself of the same nature before you move We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants GEORGE PIGOT—STRINGER LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY——ALEXR. WYNCH—WILLIAM PERCEVAL—ROBERT PALK.

Fort St. George
18th. Febry 1756.

Receiv'd a Letter from Colonel Adlercron dated the 15th. Instant as enter'd in the Book of Correspondence with him No. 20.

19 Sent a Letter of this date from the President to Mr. DeLeyrit pursuant to the Resolutions of Committee the 16 Instant.

AT A COMMITTEE.

Present.

THURSDAY THE 19TH.

GEORGE PIGOT ESQR.	GOVERNOR PRESIDENT
STRINGER LAWRENCE	HENRY POWNEY
.....	ALEXANDER WYNCH
WILLIAM PERCEVAL	ROBERT PALK.

MR. ORME *absent on Service.*

Letter from Colonel Adlercron No. 20 dated the 15th Instant read, Setting forth the Difficulties he shall be under in appointing his own Steward and providing the necessary furniture for his Table in the field.—That it will be impossible to hold the Court Martial on Captain Schaub at Madras Since Mr. Starke is the only Person who can declare upon Oath that Captain Schaub went to Pondichery without asking him Permission—That he is unacquainted with the Value of the weighty Dollar; but according to his Notion the taking up Money upon the Terms propos'd (6-6 ℔ weighty Dollar) would be paying upwards of 30 ℔ Cent whereas he can borrow as much as he may have occasion for at the rate of 8 ℔ Cent ℔ annum.—And that with regard to such Stores as are requisite to set his Majesty's Troops in Motion, he apprehends the Company is to be at the sole Charge thereof.

s. d.

As Colonel Adlercron has kept a Table ever since he came to India, the Committee imagine the same Servants and Furniture he has employ'd in Garrison will certainly be Sufficient for him in the Field, accordingly it is Agreed to write him that we hope he will be able to make it convenient to him to appoint his own Steward as before proposed.—That the rate of Six Shillings and Six pence ℔ weighty Dollar (which is Seventeen Pennyweights fifteen Grains of Standard Silver) is the same at which the Company supplied Commodore Barnet, and although he may very likely get Money at a more advantageous Exchange from Persons who want to

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1756.*—— [19TH.]

remit to Europe, yet with regard to the Company it is to be consider'd they risque their Money, out and that before the Sums lent by them in India can be return'd there is a Loss of two Years Interest.

Agreed that such Stores as the Regiment may be in want of to enable them to take the Field be deliver'd upon the Receipt of the proper Officer undersign'd by the Colonel.

Agreed to write to Captain Polier for Information how many and what Officers will be required according to the Swiss Rules to try Captain Schaub for the Offences with which he is charged in Committee 23d January and also to acquaint us further concerning the Forms of their Courts Martial that we may be able to write Colonel Adlercron how far we think it possible Captain Schaub may be tried at Madras.

Mr. De Leyrit advising in his last Letter that the ten Swiss Deserters were return'd to Fort St. David before the Receipt of the Presidents' Representation on that Subject, and Mr. Starke having given us no Notice of their Arrival it is Agreed to write Mr. Starke that he should have been more punctual in acquainting us with that Event, especially as it has been a contested Matter.

The Nabob having transmitted to the President his Orders on the Killedar of Trichenopoly for the Payment of the Amount of the Estimates transmitted by Captain Caillaud (read in Committee 23d. January) and also his Order on the Amuldar of Changleput for the Payment of 4000 Rupees wanted for the Repair of that Fort according to Mr. Engineer Call's Estimate. Order'd that they be dispatched to Captain Caillaud and Captain Polier.

The Eastcourt being near her Dispatch Order'd that a Letter to the Secret Committee be prepared to be sent on her advising of the Several Occurrences that have pass'd under our Management since the Dispatch of the Hardwicke.

GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
AR. WYNCH.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.
ROBT. PALK.

Pursuant to the Resolutions of last Committee Sent a Letter of this date to Colonel Adlercron as Enter'd No. 21 Also the following Letter to Richard Starke Esqr.

To RICHARD STARKE ESQR.

Sir

Inclos'd is a Letter which after perusing you will Seal and deliver to Colonel Adlercron. In consequence of what we therein write him should his Majesty's Regiment be at any time in want of Stores for the publick Service and Colonel Adlercron object to giving Bills for their amount at the Rate of 6sh. 6d. ℔ weighty Dollar you may deliver them upon a Receipt sign'd by the proper Officer and undersign'd by Colonel Adlercron.

We hear from Mr. De Leyrit that the ten Swiss who deserted from Cuddalore the 3d. January have been return'd to you; We are surprized to have received no advices from you on the Subject, especially as it has been a contested Matter.

We wait impatiently for Mr. Call's account of the Works carrying on by the French at Portonovo & are Sir Your most Obedient Servants GEORGE PIGOT—STRINGER LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY——ALEXR. WYNCH—WILLIAM PERCEVAL—ROBERT PALK.

Fort St. George
19 Febry. 1756.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1756.*——

22D. Mr. Orme arrived from Veloor.

AT A COMMITTEE.

Present.

THURSDAY THE 26TH.

GEORGE PIGOT Esq^R.	GOVERNOR PRESIDENT
STRINGER LAWRENCE	HENRY POWNEY
ROBERT ORME	ALEXANDER WYNCH
WILLIAM PERCEVAL	ROBERT PALK.

Mr. Orme acquaints the Committee that he heard nothing further from the Phousdar of Veloor after the Conference which pass'd between them the 15th. of which a Detail is given in his Letter of that date, enter'd in these Minutes the 17th.

He further informs the Committee that the Expences of his Journey have amounted to one hundred Pagodas, Order'd that it be paid him.

The following Letters from Richard Starke Esqr. Read, also a Paper of Advice from Pondichery mentioning that two hundred Soldiers and some Sepoys were sent to Chingee the 18th.

TO THE HOÑBLE THE PRESIDENT & GOVERNOR AND THE GENTLEMEN FOR CONDUCTING COUNTRY AFFAIRS.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

I have receiv'd your favors of the 10th & 13th Instant, each inclosing a Letter for Colonel Adlercron which after perusal I deliver'd. Your several Directions contain'd therein shall be duely complied with, but I must request to be inform'd of the Value of the Weighty Dollar and the proportion it bears to the Current Pagoda; as our Accounts are made up in that Species.

The Deve Cotah Sepoys have received no Batta since their Arrival in this Garrison which I hope will testifie that I did not think them entitled thereto, nor should I have requested your Directions on that head had not Application been made by them for it.

Inclos'd is a List of all the Bengal Topasses and Military in this Garrison who being every one of them desirous of returning thither I shall endeavor to prevail on the Master of the London Sloop (who will sail from hence in four or five days for Madras and Bengal) to take them on board agreable to your former Directions. Herewith you will also receive a Petition from the Trevenduporum Renters directed to me and the Gentlemen of Council here, which relating to Affairs under the Management of the Select Committee is the reason of my forwarding it. I am with Respect Hon'ble Sir & Sirs Your most Obedient humble Servant

Fort St. David
17th. February 1756. RICHD STARKE.

TO THE HON'BLE THE PRESIDENT & GOVERNOR & THE GENTLEMEN FOR CONDUCTING COUNTRY AFFAIRS.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

I have the favor of your Letter of the 19th Instant inclosing one for Colonel Adlercron which after perusing I deliver'd.

Mr. Call being just return'd from Porto novo has sent me the inclosed Account of the Works begun by the French there; and hopes you will excuse it's not being copied in a fairer hand, as Time wou'd not permit.

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[26th]

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1756.*——

Captain Schaub whose Duty it was to acquaint me with the return of the Swiss Deserters, never did; and having receiv'd no Letter of Advice either from Mr. De Leyrit or the French Commandant about them is the reason I could not advise thereof. All this I impute to Colonel Adlercron's interfering in this Affair, however that nothing of this kind may happen in future, I shall observe the Directions you have given "To write to the Governor of Pondichery myself when any of our Men desert thither". We have received Six Swiss only, Two having been detain'd by the French as belonging to them; One in Exchange at the Request of Captain Schaub, and another at the request of Captain Gauppe. I am with Respect Honble Sir & Sirs Your most Obedt. hble Servant

Fort St. David
22d. February 1756. RICHD STARKE.

The Committee being at a Loss to imagine by what means two of Captain Schaub's Men could belong to the French, or by what Right one Man could be exchanged by Captain Gauppe and another by Captain Schaub without our Permission It is Agreed that Mr. Starke be directed to inform us more particularly of those Circumstances.

The Petition of the Trevenduporum Renters being read is found to contain a Complaint of Encroachments and Innovations made by the French & Dutch on the Village of Ariavetty near Porto Novo. The Matter not being set in a very clear light by the said Petition Order'd that Mr. Fairfield and Mr. Call do go thither from Fort St. David to enquire of the Inhabitants on the Spot and transmit us more full Information of the Facts complain'd of.

Order'd also that Mr. Engineer Call's Letter to the President regarding the Buildings of the French at Porto Novo be enter'd after these Minutes.

The following Letter from Captain Caillaud Read.

TO THE HOÑBLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQR. PRESIDENT &
GOVERNOR &CA. GENTLEMEN OF THE COMMITTEE AT MADRAS.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs No. 22.

I was honour'd yesterday with your favor of the 4th Instant No. 21, & shall make it my Study to observe and follow your Directions.

I have accordingly wrote to the King of Tanjore and Monogee, acquainting them with the orders I have received, & assurances of my being always ready at the first call.

The French Garrison at Syringham from the best Information I can get consists of about 250 Europeans and 900 Sepoys. They have also a Party at Toriour of 50 Europeans more and some Sepoy's.

I urge with all Expedition the filling of our Magazines; and shall always make that a principal part of my care and also for all other necessaries which may be wanted in this place.

As the Troubles are likely to renew it will be proper for me to have a Cypher which you will be pleased to order and have it sent; I will also mention a few Tents as very necessary. I can make them up here If you think proper Gentlemen to permit me, and shall take care to have justice done in the price and Quality I have the honor to be with great Respect Hoñble Sir & Sirs Your most Obedient and faithful Servant

Trichenopoly
13 Febry 1756. JO. CAILLAUD.

P.S.—I beg pardon for having omitted to inform you in the body of my Letter that a few days ago I receiv'd the General Court Martial approv'd by Col. Adlercron & a Dead Warrant for the Execution of George Bishop on the 23d. Instant.

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[26th.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1756.*——

Order'd that a Cypher be prepared to be sent Captain Caillaud before Hostilities commence, and that he have Liberty to make up Tents for three hundred Men if he can get proper Cloth. That being as large a Detachment as can prudently be sent out from his Garrison.

The following Letter from Major Kilpatrick read.

To the Hoñble George Pigot Esqr. President & Governor &c^a. Committee at Fort S^t. George.

No 12. Hoñble Sir & Sirs

I am honor'd with your Letters N°. 8 & 9 dated the 16th and 18th. Instant; and shall act agreable to those Instructions.

Moudin Saeb Amuldar of the Timery Country has wrote that he is just return'd from Bommerauze Pollam and has been speaking to that Pollygar about the Company's Share of the Money He agreed to pay on settling with the Nabob and offers his own Security for the Cadjan given at that time by Bommerauze on these Conditions, that the Sum shall be divided into four equal parts, the first payment to commence on your approving this Security, and another the beginning of each Month 'till the whole is paid. He adds that the Nabob's share is paid to some Sepoys and Horsemen discharg'd his Service in consequence of Letters he wrote the Pollygar for that purpose. I am with the greatest Respect Hoñble Sir & Sirs Your most obliged and Obedient humble Servant

Camp near Veloor
22^d. Febry 1756. James Kilpatrick.

Agreed that the Security offer'd by Moodin Saib for the Payment of Bommerauze's Cadjan Note for Seventy thousand (70,000) Rupees be accepted, and that Major Kilpatrick be advised thereof.

Letter from Captain Polier on the Subject of Swiss Courts Martial Read as follows.

To the Hoñble George Pigot Esqr. President & Governor of Fort S^t. George.

Hoñble Sir

I was just now honor'd with your Favour of yesterday and have the honor to inform you that in Europe when a Swiss Officer is to be tried by a Court Martial his Colonel applies to the King or State where they are who orders the Court to be composed of Eight Officers Captains & Lieutenants with a President not under the Rank ot a Major all of the same Nation; This is Hoñble Sir what I know to be the Custom in Europe & have the honor to be with a profound Respect, Hoñble Sir Your most Obed^t. & most hble Servant

Changleput
19 Febry 1756. P. Polier De Bottens.

Agreed that the present Case of Captain Schaub be explain'd to Captain Polier and his Opinion ask'd particularly, where, how, and by whose appointment he ought to be tried.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1756.*—— [26

A Paper of News from Salabat Jung's Camp as enter'd in the Country Correspondence N°. 54 read advising of Salabat Jung's Intention to march to the Country of Badra situated about one hundred and fifty Leagues to the Northward of Hydrabad, also two Letters enter'd in the same Book N°. 52 & 53 said to come, one from the Vizir, the other from the Nabob's Vackeel at Delly. From the Style and Tenor of those Letters the Committee can hardly imagine they were sent by the Vizir at Delly although the Hircaras say they came directly from thence.

This Uncertainty gives Occasion to reflect how much the Company's Affairs may suffer for want of a better knowledge of what passes at Delhi, and of the Strength of the different Interests at the Mogul's Court by which in case the Troubles should recommence, all our Resolutions should and must in great measure be guided. The President is therefore desired to enquire for a proper Person to reside at Delly in quality of our Vackeel to send us an account as often as he shall have an Opportunity of the Situation of Affairs at that Court, and to watch any occasion that may offer of strengthening our Interest there.

As by the long Stay of the Dodington and the receiving no news of her; there is reason to apprehend some Accident may have happen'd, it is Agreed to dispatch a Pattamar express to Bombay to desire the Gentlemen of the Select Committee to open any Packets directed for us and send us two Copies by the first Conveyances, of the Advices intended Us by that Ship and of the Instructions they may have received on the same Subject, which by Mr. Bourchier's Letter to the President of the 25th. September we judge to be of the last Consequence.

Although Hostilities are not likely to commence immediately, yet as we may very soon expect definitive news from Europe, it is Resolv'd that every thing be kept in readiness for War, but in order to Save such part of the Expence as can be spar'd without deviating from that Resolution. Agreed that Mr. Starke be directed to return Such Bullocks as he borrow'd on the late Alarm, from the Inhabitants within the Bounds, which he will be able to get again at a short Warning.

Letter from the Terpetty Renter read inclosing Bills for Pagodas one thousand seven hundred Seventeen and a half (1,717½) and Rupees Seventeen thousand one hundred and fifty (17,150) said to be in full for the December or Second Kist of the present Year.

Order'd that the Account be examin'd & that the Commissary demand Payment of the Bills.

GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
AR. WYNCH.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.
ROBT PALK.

TO THE HOÑBLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQR.
PRESIDENT & GOVERNOR OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

Hoñble Sir,

I receiv'd the honor of your Letter of the 23d Jañy some time since, and should have made a Visit to Portonovo immediately had not the equipping his Majesty's Regiment for the Field; and the Inspection of the Works render'd my presence here indispensably necessary. As soon as these things were in such a forwardness as to admit of my absence I went to Portonovo and examined what Buildings the French had been carrying on. The following are the Observations I made.

The old French Factory having been entirely wash'd away by the overflowing of the River in Novemr 1754 the French have now chosen a Spot of Ground about 500 Yards to the Northward of the Dutch Factory on the borders of the Town fronting the Sea, and have there built a Tiled house (I suppose for a Factory) in the middle of a small oblong Square Fort; whose front to the Sea and Land is I believe

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[26th.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1756.*——

about 250 feet each, and the other Sides do not exceed 200 feet from Point of Bastion to point of Bastion. The outside facing being above 5 feet thick at Bottom is entirely built in Clay and the Materials are either what they saved out of their old Factory, or what they have taken from a Fort formerly begun by the Moors between this and the Dutch Factory. The East and North fronts which are in the greatest forwardness are not in any part above Seven (7) feet high, and in many places not more than three (3). At present the Work is stop'd either for want of Bricks or as I am inform'd for want of Money to proceed; for it is said they have attempted to raise an extraordinary Tax on the Inhabitants of Portonovo and the adjacent parts to defray the Expence which they find very difficult to collect. I believe each Bastion will have room for 10 Guns, that is three in each face and two in each flank, but then the Parapets must not exceed three or four feet in thickness, and the South West & North Fronts are now so surrounded with buildings that 'till they are demolish'd (as I suppose they will be) the Place will be of no great Strength. However when it is finished and has a Garrison there it will be in the Power of the French in case of an European or Country War to distress us greatly in our communication with Deve Cotah or Trichenopoly especially as they have Chellumbrum and all the Places between it in their hands, They have now about twenty or thirty Europeans there and a Resident, who I believe carries on some Trade in Blue Cloth on the Company's Account, for I saw Bales packing up in the House where they live.

While I was at Portonovo I also examin'd the Remains of our Factory which I find to consist of some good Teak Timber, Doors, Windows & their Frames Palmeiras and the Square Stones of the floor, in all about 200 Pagodas worth. I belive [*sic*] and now lodged in a Godown under care of the Peon who is kept there by the Company. But as this Godown is on the point of being knock'd down either by the French or the owner, I believe it will not be improper (if our Factory is not to be rebuilt) either to sell or transport these Materials hither, otherwise they will probably be stolen or rot. There is not so much as a foot of the Ground left on which our Factory stood.

I beg leave to assure you Sir that I shall take all opportunities of procuring and communicating to you all such observations as I shall think may be useful and am very respectfully, Honble Sir, Your most Obedient & most devoted humble Servant

Fort St. David
23d. Febry 1756. JOHN CALL.

Sent by Pattamar to Bombay the following Letter to the Gentlemen of the Select Committee there.

To the Honble Richard Bourchier Esqr. President & Governor and the Gentlemen of the Select Committee at Bombay.

Honble Sir & Sirs

The long Stay of the Dodington of which Ship we have unfortunately yet receiv'd no News makes us apprehensive that some Accident has happen'd to her. We are much at a Loss for the Advices and Instructions intended us by that Ship which we learn from Mr. Bourchier's Letters to Mr. Pigot are very material for us to be acquainted with as soon as possible; we therefore Dispatch this to you express to beg the favor you will open all Letters directed for us, Send us two Copies of them by Separate Sea or Land Conveyances, as well as Copies of all the Advices you have received regarding any Matters in which we may be concern'd, and any other Intelligence which may be proper or useful for our Information. We have the honor to be Gentlemen Your most Obedt. humble Servants—George Pigot—Stringr. Lawrence—Henry Powney—Robt. Orme—Alexr. Wynch—Willm. Percival—Robert Palk.

Fort St. George
26 Febry 1756.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1756.*—— [26TH.]

Dispatch'd also the following Letters to Richard Starke Esqr. Major Kilpatrick and Captain Caillaud pursuant to the Resolutions of last Committee.

To RICHARD STARKE ESQ^R. DEPUTY GOVERNOR OF FORT ST. DAVID.

Sir

We have receiv'd your Letters dated the 17th and 22^d.

We want further Information concerning the Matter contain'd in the Petition of the Trevenduporum Renters. We desire therefore that you will send M^r. Fairfield and M^r. Call to the Village in Question with directions to enquire and take Depositions from the Head Inhabitants upon the Grievances complain'd of regarding both the Dutch and French; Let this Information be transmitted to us with an account at the same time from M^r. Call of the Situation of the Place.

We can by no means understand how two of the Deserters from Captain Schaub's Company could belong to the French or how any can be exchanged by Captain Schaub and Captain Gauppe without our permission. Please to inform us further upon those Particulars.

Such Bullocks as you borrow'd on the late Occasion from the Inhabitants within your Bounds, and can be got again at a short warning we would have you return to their Several owners as well to save the Expence of maintaining them as to avoid inconveniencing the People more than is absolutely necessary. We are Sir Your most Obed^t Servants GEORGE PIGOT—STRING^R LAWRENCE—HEN^Y POWNEY—ROB^T. ORME—ALEX^R WYNCH—WILLIAM PERCEVAL—ROB^T PALK.

Fort St. George
26 Febry 1756.

To MAJOR JAMES KILPATRICK.

Sir

Since we wrote you the 18th we have received only your Letter of the 22^d. No. 10.

We accept the Terms on which Moodin Saib offers to be Security for Bommerauze's Cadjan Note of Seventy thousand Rupees to the Company. You will please therefore to regulate in what manner it is to be paid and enquire also concerning the Bill of sixty five thousand Rupees, accepted by a Merchant on account of Bommerauze, in which the Company has a Share of twenty Six thousand. We are Sir, Your most Obed^t Servants GEORGE PIGOT &C^A COMMITTEE.

Fort St. George
26 Febry 1756.

To CAPTAIN JOHN CAILLAUD.

Sir No.

We have receiv'd your Letter of the 13th. We believe, as we have before wrote you our present Dispute may subside, but as we may so soon expect Definitive News from Europe, we would have every thing maintain'd in an immediate Posture of War.

We shall prepare a Cypher in readiness for you and if you can get the proper Cloth for Tents you may make up enough for three hundred Men which is as large a Detachment as can well be sent out from your Garrison. We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants GEORGE PIGOT &C. COMMITTEE.

Fort St. George,
26 Febry 1756.

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——*FORT ST· GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1756.*——

SATURDAY THE 28TH FEBRY.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

GEORGE PIGOT ESQR· GOVERNOR PRESIDENT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE — HENRY POWNEY
ROBERT ORME — ALEXANDER WYNCH
WILLIAM PERCEVAL — ROBERT PALK.

The following Letter from Major Kilpatrick Read.

To THE HOÑBLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQR· PRESIDENT
& GOVERNOR &CA COMMITTEE OF CORRESPONDENCE AT FORT ST· GEORGE.

No. 13. Hoñble Sir & Sirs

After receiving your Instructions of the 18th Instant, I waited three days on our Ground in hopes of bringing the Killedar of that place to comply with the Terms he agreed on with me the 9th of this Month. After many Evasions I found he had no inclination to pay the Money without having such advantages granted as were not in my power to promise, and which were no less than a full confirmation of those Seven Articles enter'd into between Abdul bob Cawn and him, therefore as neither I or any one present was empower'd to negociate on the part of the Nabob, I found our longer stay would only encrease the Company's Expence, without the least hopes of bringing the Affair to a conclusion on tolerable terms, and I am sorry to say I have great reasons to believe the Nabob's own management and underhand dealings in this whole Affair have not a little Contributed to render the success of the Expedition abortive.

Yesterday afternoon at 2 O'Clock I marched the Army about Six Miles on the Arnee Road and this day mov'd again; to morrow I propose quartering the Army in Arcot when agreable to your Orders I shall strike off the Batta, and reduce all extraordinary Expences.

I have given Captain Howes leave to go for Madrass and the Neloor Subedar having represented that his private Business required his presence at Trichenopoly for a short time I have given him leave to go, but believe he cannot set out before the time I may receive your Answer if you disapprove of it. I am with the greatest Respect Hoñble Sir & Sirs Your most Oblig'd & obedt· hble Servant

Camp at Worriorpatnam
25 Febry 1756. JAMES KILPATRICK.

The Committee do Resolve to take the first Opportunity of calling Murtaz ally Cawn to account for the Expences of the late Expedition and for his Deceitful and evasive Behaviour in his Negociations with Major Kilpatrick and Mr· Orme.

The President at the same time acquaints the Committee that he has receiv'd a Letter from Major Kilpatrick desiring leave to come to Madras. As the Troops are before this put into Quarters Agreed that his Request be granted and that a Letter be wrote to acquaint him with this Permission expressing also our Approbation of his Conduct during the Expedition.

Letter to the Secret Committee to go by the Ship Eastcourt being read in it's foul Draft and approved. Order'd that it be Copied fair.

GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
AR· WYNCH.
WILLM· PERCEVAL.
ROBT· PALK.

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——*FORT S^t. GEORGE, FEBRUARY 1756.*—— [28 FEB.]

Sent the following Letter to Major Kilpatrick pursuant to Resolutions of the foregoing Committee.

To MAJOR JAMES KILPATRICK.

Sir No. 11.

We have received your Letter of the 25th. advising of your Intention to quarter the Troops at Arcot the next day. This is only to assure you that your Conduct during the Expedition has been very agreable to us, and to acquaint you that you have our permission to return to Madras in compliance with your Request in a Letter to the President; leaving the Command of the Army to Captain Lee. We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants GEORGE PIGOT—STRINGER LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY—ROB^T. ORME—ALEXANDER WYNCH—WILLIAM PERCEVAL—ROB^T. PALK.

Fort S^t. George.
28 Febry 1756.

Receiv'd a Letter from Duval de Leyrit Esqr. to the President dated the 25th Instant. 29.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present.

GEORGE PIGOT ESQ^R.	GOVERNOR PRESIDENT	MONDAY
STRINGER LAWRENCE	HENRY POWNEY	1ST MARCH.
ROBERT ORME	ALEXANDER WYNCH	
WILLIAM PERCEVAL	ROBERT PALK.	

Order'd that the Letter received Yesterday from M^r. De Leyrit be copied N°. 16 into the Book of French Correspondence to be sent home on the Eastcourt and that a Paragraph be added to the Letter to the Secret Committee now before us to acquaint them with our Sentiments upon M^r. De Leyrit's Arguments particularly that part which confines the Intentions of the Truce to the Establishment of Tranquility in the Carneteek. On the Strength of which he thinks himself at Liberty to act without Restraint in the Decan. Now it is the Opinion of the Committee that the French are as much forbid by the Treaties to accompany Salabat Jung in any of his Expeditions in the Decan, to establish his Dominion over Countries which were not in his Dependence at the Time of the Truce as they are to make new Conquests in the Arcot Province or oppose the Nabob in his Government of such parts of it as were Subject to him at that time.

Order'd also that M^r. De Leyrit's Letter be further consider'd at our next Meeting, that proper Resolutions may be made upon the Open Declarations therein contain'd; Declarations of a Nature hardly to be suffer'd, be we never so much inclined to preserve the Truce untill the Arrival of the expected Orders from Europe.

A Paragraph having been accordingly added to the Letter to the Secret Committee to go by the Ship Eastcourt, It is now read in it's fair Copy, and Sign'd; And the Packet Order'd to be closed.

GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
A^R. WYNCH.
WILL^M. PERCEVAL.
ROB^T. PALK

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[1er.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MARCH 1756.*——

Receiv'd a Letter from Colonel Adlercron dated the 2nd Instant as Enter'd in the Book of Correspondence with him No. 22.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present.

FRIDAY THE 5TH

GEORGE PIGOT ESQR. GOVERNOR PRESIDENT
STRINGER LAWRENCE HENRY POWNEY
ROBERT ORME ALEXANDER WYNCH
... ROBERT PALK.
MR. PERCEVAL, *Indisposed.*

Mr. De Leyrit's Letter No. 16 which was partly consider'd in Committee the 1st. Instant being now again, read, the following Remarks are made on the several Arguments and Assertions therein contain'd.

Mr. De Leyrit's Letter No. 16. Para 2.

"What have you replied to disprove the Contents of my Letter of the 21st "October last wherein I enter into a Detail which proves the Legality of our "Right over those Countries, (Madura & Tinnevelly) which you have usurp'd.

REMARK.

Mr. De Leyrit's Letter of 21st October was answer'd by the President's of 21st November following, which proves the Pretensions of the French over Madura & Tinnevelly to be groundless.

Mr. De Leyrit's Letter No. 16. Para 10.

"Can you look upon as Subjected, such Pollygars, Kellidars and others as you "cannot procure Contributions from but by the force of your Arms. You contradict "yourself."

REMARK.

Our sending an Army to collect the Tributes due from the Pollygars, Killedars and others can be no Argument against our Right because none of those Chiefs ever will pay what is due from them without a Force to oblige them; Instances are to be seen all over this Country but the Conduct of the French since the Truce has not been so moderate or so justly founded. In Toriour they would not be satisfied with the Tribute offer'd them but dispossess'd the Chief in favor of another. In Mysore they assisted Salabat Jung in levying an immense Contribution altho'the Country never was Subjected either to Salabat Jung or the French.

Mr. De Leyrit's Letter No. 16. Para 13th.

"Salabat Jung is Soubah of the Decan, this is as true as that two and two make four."

REMARK.

Such an Argument can be of no Weight with Impartial Persons, or Persons acquainted with the Facts that have pass'd.

Para 14.

"The Principal view in the Treaty of Truce was to reestablish a State of "Tranquility in the Province of Arcot."

REMARK.

By this Maxim, and the Conduct of the French since the Truce it seems that Mr. Leyrit thinks himself at Liberty to act as he pleases in the Decan. The Resolutions made on this Subject will appear in a Private Committee of this date.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MARCH 1756.*—— [illegible]

"If I have not to this time Replied to your Letters of the 12th, 20th & 21st "November on the Subject of the Contested Districts it is not by any means that "they are unanswerable. Give yourself the Trouble to cast your Eyes on the "Correspondence of our respective Commissaries, and you will yourself perceive the "little Grounds, and the Falsity of all that you advance in those Letters on the "faith of your Commissaries." Mr. De Leyrit's Letter No. 16. Para 18.

REMARK

Mr. De Leyrit not only rejects all the Evidence contain'd in the abovemention'd Letter without any Examination or Reply but frustrates all our Endeavors to prevent Hostilities in the Contested Districts; Instead of acceding to the Proposal made him by the President in his Letter of the 21st November, to withdraw the Seapoys on both Sides; He has sent continual Reinforcements to Mr Durocher who takes advantage of the Superiority of his Force to carry away the Grain openly.

Therefore upon the Perusal of three Letters from our Commissaries dated 27th and 29th February and 3d March (enter'd in their Proceedings No. 6, 7, & 8) representing the Disadvantage they labour under on account of the Superiour Number of the French Sepoys, it is Agreed to direct Major Kilpatrick to send two Companies of Sepoys from Arcot to Carongoly Fort, putting them under the Orders of the Commissaries; And that the Commissaries be directed to make use of them in order to maintain an equal Authority in the Contested Districts, and oppose any Violent and unlawful Attempts of the French, but to keep the Sepoys as much as possible in the Fort to avoid incurring the Expence of Batta.

Although the Committee are resolved not quietly to Suffer the Company's Rights over the Contested Districts to be invaded; they are willing nevertheless to use all the means in their power to prevent the actual Commencement of Hostilities before the pleasure of our Superiours be known, and to this End it is Agreed to propose again to Mr. De Leyrit to withdraw all armed Persons on both Sides from the Contested Districts. The President is desired also again to offer him a Meeting at Madarantegum; as a Personal Conference might probably tend to accommodate the present Disputes, so far at least as to preserve the Tranquility untill the Arrival of Orders from Europe.

Order'd that Letters to Mr. De Leyrit and the Commissaries be prepared conformably to the foregoing Minutes.

Letter from Colonel Adlercron dated the 2nd Instant as enter'd No. 22 in the Correspondence with him Read. Declaring that unless the Swiss Officers be assembled at Fort St. David without loss of time for the Trial of Captain Schaub, he will most certainly release him—That he will positively give no Bills upon the Government on account of Stores, as all incident Charges ought to be borne by the Company—And Recommending that the Draft Bullocks be not discharg'd.

The Committee have repeatedly represented to Colonel Adlercron the Inconvenience of sending the Swiss Officers to Fort St David. Captain Polier commanding at Changleput and Captain Gauppe being employ'd as a Commissary, but Colonel Adlercron having now declared his positive Resolution that Captain Schaub shall be tried at Fort St David notwithstanding all our Representations it is Agreed that Captain Polier do give the Charge of the Garrison of Changleput to the next Officer and proceed immediately for Fort St. David, but as to Captain Gauppe the Affairs of the Contested Districts are in such a critical Situation that he cannot possibly be spared.

As Colonel Adlercron flatly refuses to give any Bills on the Government for Stores supplied the Regiment it is impossible for us to follow the Method prescrib'd us on that Subject by our Honorable Masters but it being absolutely necessary for us to have vouchers for all Disbursements made on account of His Majesty's Troops it is Agreed to direct Mr. Starke to deliver nothing without a Demand sign'd by Colonel Adlercron, and a Receipt on the back from the proper Officer; and to acquaint

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[illegible] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MARCH 1756.*——

Colonel Adlercron with our said Directions. Order'd also that Mr. Starke transmit us Copies of all Vouchers to this time and a General account of Disbursements made for the Regiment.

With regard to the Bullocks it is Resolv'd to keep the one hundred and ten that are purchased on the Company's Account and to recommend to Mr. Starke to get Security from the Inhabitants that the Bullocks belonging to them shall be deliver'd back when the Service may require it, and upon that footing to restore them pursuant to our Resolution of the 26 February.

Agreed that Captain Polier's Letter to the President on the Subject of Swiss Courts Martial be forwarded to Colonel Adlercron, and that it be also Copied after these Minutes, to the End that our Honble Masters may be acquainted with the many Inconveniences we are Subjected to by the having Swiss Troops with Separate Priviledges join'd with the English in their Service.

Mr. William Parker late Supracargo of the Fanny Snow belonging to Governor Drake and other Gentlemen of Calcutta lays before the Committee the following address.

The Declaration of William Parker late Supracargo of the Fanny Snow belonging to Roger Drake Esqr. &ca. Owners in Calcutta, Bengal; humbly address to the Honble George Pigot Esqr. President and Governor of Fort St. George Setting forth

That the said Vessel was destin'd from the Port of Calcutta to that of Madras and the Coast of Malabar and on her outward bound Passage on or about the 30th September 1755 was drove ashore in a gale of Wind near a Place call'd Dermoran, as he apprehends under the Jurisdiction of Vizeram Rauze. That five Chests of Cassimbuzar Goods together with two Bales consisting of Soosies Shawles and sundry other Goods drove ashore from the said Vessel which he got up to the Village of Dermoran and put in a House there. That Hommet Cawn Nabob or Phousdar of Siccacole forcibly seized the Goods and told him that he and the Officers of the Ship must forthwith repair to the next English Settlement. That he did accordingly go to Vizagapatam and on application got Letters to Ibrahim Cawn said to be Nabob of the Province of Siccacole to which he gave for Answer. That the English Company were endebted to him in Arrears for Tribute or ground Rent for their Settlement of Vizagapatam and desired to know whether they would pay it or not; The Chief was applied to, and an answer return'd he would not pay it. That Ibrahim Cawn and Hommet Cawn gave him Letters with an Order to Adam Cawn; Fousdar under them at Siccacole for the delivery of the five Chests and two Bales. That he inform'd them at that time that many other Bales were sav'd out of the Wreck and in possession of Adam cawn and remonstrated the hardship of their so unwarrantably seizing the Goods, seeing the French and English Nations were at Peace to which Ibrahim Cawn reply'd that there were no other Goods saved than the abovemention'd, adding; Why do you mention the French to me I am not a Servant of theirs neither have I any Connection with or Dependence on them. Hommet Cawn also threatening the English Company that in case the Tribute was not paid within Six Months to compell them to it by force. That he proceeded with their Order from Echappoor to Siccacole and was inform'd by Ismuel Sob Brother to Adam cawn that they had sav'd thirty or one & thirty Bales, and what still more corroborated the truth of it was the Information of two Peons which the said Willm Parker set at the Wreck as Spies upon them who carried those Bales into the Town of Siccacole in the night time to prevent the Country People's so readily informing him of it. That he apprehends those Bales were valuable Goods and to the best of his Judgment must have cost at Bengal One hundred thousand Rupees (Rs. 100,000). That he was credibly inform'd Ibrahim Cawn and Hommet Cawn had paid their Troops with those Goods instead of ready money, that a great many were dispersed over the Country and some offer'd him for Sale which he was inform'd were purchas'd of their Seapoys. That when the five Chests and two Bales were return'd, to the best of his remembrance there were two hundred and forty one Pieces taken out of the Chests, which he was inform'd

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—*FORT ST. GEORGE, MARCH 1756.*— [5TH.]

Hommet Cawn had put to his own use. That the Vessel was drove ashore on the 30th of Septemr or first of October in the morning and on or about the 3d of the said Month Hommet Cawn obliged him to write out an Invoice of the Owner's Cargo and under it to subscribe that all the Goods were lost except the 5 Chests and two Bales abovemention'd and indeed he thought so then, But since that time the Goods now claim'd were drove ashore—he mentions this Circumstance, suspecting they will produce that Paper and give it as a Plea of their innocence saying they have it under the Supracargoes hand & that all the Goods were lost except the 5 chests and 2 Bales. That at low water there was no more than two foot or two foot and a half water where the Keel of the Ship lay, for which Reason he verily believes that all the Bales must have drove ashore. All which Matters & Things which he hath now represented to your Honor &ca he is ready to affirm under Oath and prays that your Honor &ca will please to take the same into Consideration and endeavor to procure him and others concern'd, such redress in these unfortunate Circumstances as may be in some measure Equivalent to the Damages sustain'd and to deter in future the petty Governments on the Sea Coast from Ravaging and plundering those who may be so unfortunate to meet with the like Accident. I am with Respect

Hoñble Sir & Sirs,

Your most Obedient humble Servant

Fort St George
23d Febry 1756.

WILLIAM PARKER.

Sworn before me the 4th May 1756.

GEORGE PIGOT.

Resolv'd to transmit to Mr. De Leyrit a Copy of the foregoing Declaration desiring that he will do justice to the Concerned, if he has the Authority therein supposed over the Siccacul Country.

The following Letter from Richd. Starke Esqr. Read.

TO THE HOÑBLE THE PRESIDENT AND GOVERNOR
& THE GENTLEMEN FOR CONDUCTING COUNTRY AFFAIRS.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

I have the favor of your Letter of the 26 Ulto.

Messrs. Farifield [*sic*] and Call are gone upon the Commission You have directed; As soon as they return, their Information with Mr. Call's Account of the Situation of the Place shall be transmitted you.

The Bullocks which I have borrowed from the Inhabitants within our Bounds, I take the Liberty to acquaint you (if once return'd) cannot be easily procured again. Their number is one hundred and forty eight which having been all taught to draw are fit for immediate Service, whereas new ones (if procurable) will be refractory and of no use till taught to draw which Time perhaps may not admit of. If you should think proper after the Reasons I have offer'd for keeping them to Direct me to return them to their several Owners, your Orders shall be immediately complied with. Colonel Adlercron is very desirous of having them kept, and tells me he will do himself the pleasure to write you on that head. The Number of Bullocks purchased are One hundred & ten.

Inclosed is a Letter from Captain Schaub to me on the Subject of the four Swiss Deserters detain'd by the French which explains what you are desirous of knowing regarding them. I am with Respect Hoñble Sir & Sirs Your most Obedient humble Servant

Fort St. David
1st March 1756.

RICHD STARKE.

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[5ma.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MARCH 1756.*——

The Letter from Captn Schaub to Mr. Starke on the Subject of the four Deserters detain'd at Pondichery says that two of them were claim'd by the French as Deserters from them since the Cartel, that he agreed with Mr. Saubinet the French Commandant, to exchange the other two against two Men belonging to Pondichery and that Colonel Adlercron approved this Exchange.

The Committee are of Opinion that Exchanges of this Nature should by no means be allowed as it will put it in the power of the Enemy to fix Spies upon all our Garrisons, and it is very surprizing if so apparent an Inconvenience should have escaped Colonel Adlercron's Attention; so far too as to Suffer him to exchange away the Company's Men without consulting us or the Deputy Governor of Fort St. David. Agreed to communicate to Colonel Adlercron our Opinion on the Subject in order to prevent as far as lies in our power any future Practices of the same Nature.

Two Letters from Major Kilpatrick read as follow.

To the Honble George Pigot Esqr. President & Governor
&c. Gentlemen of the Committee of Correspondence at Fort St. George.

No. 14. Honble Sir & Sirs

Agreable to my Letter of the 25th. I quarter'd the Army in Arcot yesterday, and struck off the Allowance of Batta, and order'd the Commissary to reduce all extraordinary Expences.

On the Army's marching from Trichenopoly last year, Shaick Meens Company of Seapoys were left at Trinomalee, and complain they had not Notice sent them of the Batta's being struck off as it was to the other Garrisons, and that in Expectation of receiving it they did not reduce their Expences as they otherwise would have done. I heard of their wanting Batta between two and three Months after they were left there, and sent them word it had ceased in all the Garrisons from the time they went into Quarters, since that I have had many complaints from the Country People of the Oppressions the Subedar and his Company were guilty of, and several of the Seapoys themselves have deserted thence and conplain'd to me of their Subedars stopping part of their Pay without any reason and that they were all discontented; I therefore sent down a Subedar to enquire into Shaick Meen's conduct and if he found him culpable to send him here; He has inform'd me the whole Company is in the greatest Confusion and has order'd up the Subedar, I have therefore thought it necessary to send down another Company to relieve them and shall make a strict Enquiry into the whole proceedings which as soon as finish'd will lay before you.

As you gave no Orders for returning the Money to Murtaz ally Cawn, I have it still in my possession and am apprehensive from what I have since heard it will not amount to near the Sum he gave it for, however it is still Seal'd with his Chop which shall not be open'd 'till I have your Directions about it.

Agreable to your former orders to morrow morning, I shall send down all the Bengal Topasses under the care of Lieutenant Campbel, except one who is detain'd as an evidence at the General Court Martial after that is finished he shall also be sent down; 2 Men of the Artillery and one of the Grenadiers who are so very troublesome on all occasions, that I have sent them down to Madras, as they can be much better managed in Garrison than when employ'd in Camp. I am Honble Sir & Sirs Your most Obedt. hble Servant

Arcot,
27 Febry. 1756. James Kilpatrick.

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——*FORT S^{T}. GEORGE, MARCH 1756.*—— [5TH.]

To the Hoñble George Pigot Esq^{R}. Presid^{T}. and Governor
&c^{A}. Gentlemen of the Committee at Fort S^{T}. George.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs No. 15.

I am honor'd with your two Letters of the 26 & 28th of February, agreable to the former I doubt not I shall settle Bommerauze's Affair before I leave the Army entirely to your Satisfaction, his Vackeel has been here since our return, and told me the only reasons of the Money's not being paid by his Master was the Nabob's declining to grant the promises he made on settling the Affair which were the giving him a Phirmaund for the Country (that had not been done since the death of the late Pollygar) and allowing the Presents usual on those occasions to be deducted from his Account, the Nabob has now removed that objection, and Meer Malong, my Dubash and the Vackeel are gone back with a promise that the Money the Merchant was Security for should be paid immediately, and if possible to raise a further Sum he would also discharge the Cadjan Note or such a part of it as he could, as soon as I hear from my Dubash I shall know whether or no it will be necessary to take Moudin Saib's Security in either case I must desire the Cadjan Note may be sent up immediately.

The 1st of the Month four Swiss and yesterday 5 More, and a German of the Artillery deserted, I have heard that the former are certainly gone to Veloor. I cannot find out any reasons they have to be dissatisfied, as provisions of every kind are good and abundantly cheap, I therefore think that Pollygar must employ some Emissaries in this Place to encourage them to it. I have endeavour'd by all means to find it out, but without effect, neither have the Guards of Sepoys posted on all the Avenues leading to the Town been able to Secure any of them. From our Numbers here we are greatly distress'd for conveniency of quarters and find it impossible to get such as are necessary to keep the Men together and prevent their getting away if they have an inclination, as Veloor is so near and a safe receptacle for them. I therefore imagine if your Intentions in keeping this Force together would be equally answer'd by it Conjeveram would be much better quarters, as the Men would not only be contiguous and within Walls, but at so great a Distance that it would be scarce possible for them to get off, and I believe with respect to Provisions it would answer equally as well.

Your Letter of the 28th. Ultimo cannot fail of affording me the most sensible pleasure, as I have the Satisfaction to be assured in it, that my Conduct has met with your approbation ; Give me leave Gentlemen to assure you I shall on all occasions exert my utmost Zeal for the good of this Service, and warmly embrace every Opportunity of improving the good Opinion you are pleas'd to entertain of me, by a faithful discharge of my Duty in whatever you are pleased to employ me. I shall remain here 'till I receive your answer to this Letter and then deliver over the charge of the Army to Captain Lee and make use of your permission to go to Madras.

Enclosed are the returns &c^{a}. and I am with the greatest Respect

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obedient & obliged hble Servant

James Kilpatrick.

Arcot
3^{d} March 1756.

The Money being sent out by Murtaz ally Cawn by way of Security on his part for the performance of the Agreement he made at the same time with Major Kilpatrick, and that Agreement not having been broke by us but only by Murtaz ally we see no Reason why the Money should be return'd Agreed therefore to give Directions to Major Kilpatrick to open the Bags and deliver the amount contain'd in them to the Commissary, advising us how much.

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[5th.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MARCH 1756.*——

Letter from Captain Polier commanding at Changleput, Read advising that he has in his hands two hundred and fifty Seven Pagodas twenty Eight fanams (257-28) for old Paddy sold by Captain Gauppe, with which he intended to have purchased new Paddy for the Garrison Store but the price of Grain having risen very much he desires Orders for the Disposal of the Money.

Order'd that Captain Polier credit the Commissary for the Sum in his hands and the President will agree with the Renter of Changleput for a Supply of new Paddy for the Garrison Store.

Letter from the Nabob as enter'd in the Country Correspondence No. 59 read, desiring our Opinion whether the Circars Amuldars placed over the Veloor Jagueers which were seiz'd at the time of the March of the Army for that place, should be continued in the said Jagueers or withdrawn.

The Killedar of Veloor by his late Evasion and ill faith certainly merits no favor from us or the Nabob and therefore we are of Opinion the Amuldars should be continued and the Rents collected on account of the Circar. Agreed to write accordingly to the Nabob in answer to his Letter.

The Terpetty Account Current of the December Kist having been examin'd pursuant to the Order of the 26th February, there appears a Ballance due to the Company of Seven (7) Rupees and forty (40) Pagodas which the Renter's Vackeel now pays to the Commissary.

GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
A^R. WINCH.
ROB^T PALK.

To THE HONBLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQ^R.
PRESIDENT & GOVERNOR OF FORT S^T GEORGE.

Honble Sir

I just now received your favor of the 26th, by which you order'd me to give you my Opinion to those Several Articles, relating to the Court Martial that is going to be held upon Captain Schaub.

1st. What Court Martial should be appointed on this Occasion ?
2dly. By whom
3dly. Where &
4thly. In what manner.

As to the first then, I have the honor to tell you Sir, as we are not here a Sufficient number of Swiss to hold a Court Martial on a Captain, since it ought to be composed of Captains, if we had not been excluded from entering into the English Court Martial; I should have been at no loss to say, that naturally what was wanting of us in number ought to be made up by English Captains in the Service of the Honble Company, since there is no doubt, but what we ought to be judged if we are either in fault or suspected to be so; for that we have not of our Nation to judge Us, is certainly no Reason that we should not be judged. But I am persuaded Sir you will be fully sensible how hard it would be for us to be tried by Officers, our Equals, and in the same Service, in that I mean of the Honble Company whom we are not admitted to Judge on the like occasions; this would be certainly giving them an infinitely too great Superiority over us and would not so much neither that, as the Infamy & Ignominy that it appears to me to carry towards us; A thing which neither can or ought to be; so that it is my Opinion Sir that those Gentlemen in the Service of the Honble Company ought not to be allowed to Judge, unless in cases of the utmost necessity; and that if the Court Martial now to be held must necessarily be

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MARCH 1756.*—— [5th]

composed of Captains of half the King's and half the Hoñble Company's Troops; I think that for the English Captains of the Company who are to Sit it ought to be particularly specified in the Commission that they are only there because there was not a like Number of Swiss Captains as there ought to have been.

As to the second Question Sir I had the honor to inform you in my last, that in Europe the Prince or State where we are by his Secretary of War, gives orders for all Courts Martial to try Officers as well as for the Officers who are to compose them, *Here* Sir I am entirely at a Loss and cannot at all pretend to give my Opinion in this Affair. I am well sensible of the Respect I owe to You and with the greatest Justice surely, as chief Representative of the Masters I have the honor to serve, I must know also the Respect I owe to Colonel Adlercron sent in this Country by His Majesty our Sovereign; so that I must beg Sir that you would here excuse me, giving my Opinion, where by my Ignorance I might perhaps give Offence to either, which I shall be ever careful to avoid.

As to the 3rd Article, As in Europe the Courts Martial are generally held in the accused Garrison and that both the accused Captain Schaub and Mr. Starke his Accuser are at Fort St. David; 'Tis my opinion that it ought to be held there.

As to the 4th Article, this is my Opinion, As the Court must be compos'd mostly of English, that it ought also to be held in the manner and according to the Custom of other English Courts Martial.

Upon the whole I am heartily sorry that there should appear any Occasion to bring Captain Schaub to a Court Martial, and only wish sincerely that he may be able to justify himself and still deserve your favour. I have the honor to be with a profound Respect, Hoñble Sir Your most Obedt & most hble Servant

Changleput
28 Febry 1756. P. Polier de Bottens.

Pursuant to the Resolutions of Committee the 5th Dispatch'd the following Letters Viz— [7th]

To Duval De Leyrit Esqr. dated this day as Enter'd No. 19.

To Colonel Adlercron dated this day as Enter'd No. 23. And the following Letters to Richard Starke Esqr, and Major Kilpatrick.

To Richard Starke Esqr.
Deputy Governor of Fort St David.

Sir

We have received your Letters of the 25th February and 1st. March. The Bengal Topasses arrived on the London Sloop.

Colonel Adlercron has wrote us on the Subject of the Draft Bullocks, As those belonging to the Inhabitants are kept in constant use we apprehend they can want but little training; It would be very deterimental to the Inhabitants to be so long deprived of them and a great Expence to the Company to maintain them. We would endeavor therefore to obviate the Inconveniencies on all Sides by delivering them back to the Inhabitants, they engaging to return them immediately upon your Demand for the Company's Service. We doubt not the Inhabitants will consent with pleasure, and we recommend to you to pursue that Method. The 110 that are brought on the Company's Account you will keep, and let them be well train'd.

Colonel Adlercron refuses absolutely to give Bills for any Stores; we therefore only insist that there be a Demand from him in writing, and a Receipt at the back from the proper Officer for whatever is deliver'd. You will carefully observe to issue no Stores to the Regiment or make the least Disbursement of any kind on their Account without such a Demand and Receipt. You will be pleased to transmit us one General Account of all Disbursements that have been made by the Company

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[7mo.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MARCH 1756.*——

on Account of the Regiment since their coming to the Coast whether in the way of Cash, Stores, Necessaries or Repairs of any kind, and send us also Copies of all Demands, Receipts, Certificates or other Vouchers regarding those Disbursements.

As Colonel Adlercron will not permit Captain Schaub to be tried any where but at St David, we have orderd Captain Polier to repair thither to sit at the Court Martial, When the Court assembles you will deliver the Articles of the Charge against Captain Schaub, according to the Paper inclosed.

We transmit under Cover our Letter to Colonel Adlercron on the foregoing Subjects which after Perusal you will seal and deliver. We are Sir Your most Obed^{t}. Servants GEORGE PIGOT—STRING^{R}. LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY—ROBERT ORME—ALEXANDER WYNCH—WILLIAM PERCEVAL—ROB^{T} PALK.

Fort St George
7th March 1756.

Articles of Complaint exhibited by Richard Starke Esqr. Deputy Governor of Fort S^{t}. David against Captain Schaub.

1st. Disrespect & Neglect of Duty.

For going to Pondichery without having first made Application and obtain'd the Liberty of him the Deputy Governor.

2^{d}. Neglect of Duty.

For not duly reporting to him the Deputy Governor or to the Commandant at Fort St David the Desertion of ten Swiss Soldiers under his Command.

To MAJOR JAMES KILPATRICK.

No. 12. Sir

We have receiv'd your Letters N° 14 & 15 we are obliged to you for your care concerning the Trinomelee Sepoys. Lieutenant Campbel is arrived with the Bengal Topasses.

As we look upon the Money sent out by Murtaz ally, to have been given as a kind of Security for his Performance of his Agreement, and that Agreement was broke only on his Part we see no Reason for returning the Money. You will please to open the Bags and deliver their Contents to the Commissary advising us how much.

Inclos'd we send Bommerauze's Cadjan Note according to your Request. Finding it necessary to reinforce our Commissaries in the Contested Districts we desire you will immediately detach two Companies of Sepoys to Carongoly advising Messrs. Gauppe and Bannatyne and putting them under their Orders.

If you have reason to Suspect that any of our People are in Veloor, we would have you write to the Killedar and demand them; We depend on your Care to prevent further Desertion as much as possible; We judge with you that the removing the Troops to Conjeveram might be a means but we think it necessary they should remain at Arcot, as long as the French Troops keep their Encampment, and also to countenance the Nabob's Amuldars in their Possession of the Veloor Jagueers.

We are
Sir
Your most Obed^{t}. Servants
GEORGE PIGOT &C^{A} COMMITTEE.

Fort St George
6th March 1756.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MARCH 1756.*——

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

GEORGE PIGOT ESQR. GOVERNOR PRESIDENT — MONDAY THE 8TH.
STRINGER LAWRENCE — HENRY POWNEY
ROBERT ORME — ALEXANDER WYNCH
WILLIAM PERCEVAL — ROBERT PALK.

Several Letters from the Nabob as enter'd in the Country Correspondence from Nos. 60 to 62 Read, advising that the Pullitavre and other Pollygars having join'd together against Mohofoz Cawn had obtain'd several Advantages over his Troops and at length block'd up his Relation Abdul Maley Cawn in a Fort called Nadamandelum situated between Madura and Tinnevelly, requesting therefore that immediate Assistance may be sent to Mahofoz Cawn to secure the possession of those important Countries; Certain it is that the Madura and Tennevelly Districts are of so much value, that it is of the Greatest Consequence to preserve Ym. in the Nabob's Possession, for although continual Disturbances have to this time obliged Mohofoz Cawn to keep up such a force as has demanded the whole Revenues to support it, yet it may be hoped that the Polygars when they perceive we are resolv'd to maintain our Right over those Countries will be wearied at last of Fruitless Disturbance and submit to live quietly under our Government; In these hopes it is well worth while to preserve the Possession of those Countries, but we would chuse to avoid sending Europeans as well to save Expence as to prevent any Alarm reaching the French who would very probably detach Troops on their part to the Assistance of the Polygars for by their Conduct in the late Veloor Affair we have sufficient Reason to conclude they would be glad of an Opportunity of opposing our Right over Madura and Tinnevelly and supporting the Groundless Pretensions they have set up to those Countries.

It is therefore Resolv'd that Mahomed Usoff Cawn the Nelloor Subedar (who for his good Behaviour had a Commission given him upon Colonel Lawrence's Recommendation as Commander over all the Company's Sepoys) do march with one thousand Seapoys the Coffree Company and two Guns from Trichenopoly by which means he will arrive with Mahofoz Cawn before the News of his Departure can cause any Alarm this way—That he be directed likewise to demand from Mahofoz Cawn the Ballance of one hundred and twenty one thousand (121,000) Rupees which he owes to the Company on account of the Rent of Madura and Tinnevelly according to the Agreement he made with Colonel Heron—To settle a Method for the future payment of half those Revenues to the Company in a regular manner—And to remit to Capt Caillaud all the Money he may receive on the Company's Account.

Agreed that Directions be sent Captain Caillaud to prepare Coffrees, Sepoys and Guns beforemention'd, and the President is desired to write to the King of Tanjour and Tondaman, Morravar, Nellecotah and Catabominaigue Polygars, to desire they will give Assistance to Mohofoz Cawn.

Letter from the King of Tanjour as enter'd No. 63 in the Country Correspondence; Read, in answer to the President's concerning the Motions of the French advising of his Readiness to oppose their Enterprizes, and join in Alliance with us.

Agreed that a Letter be wrote him in answer, expressing our firm Attachment to Him, and our Satisfaction to find him in his former good Inclination towards us.

GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
AR. WYNCH.
WILLM PERCEVAL.
ROBT. PALK

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[8th.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MARCH 1756.*——

Sent the following Letter to Captain Caillaud pursuant to the Resolution of the foregoing Committee.

To Captain John Caillaud.

No. 24. Sir

Upon the news we received lately from the Nabob of the dangerous Situation of Mohofoz Cawn and the Madura and Tinnevelly Countries we have resolved that Ussoff Cawn the Nelour Subedar proceed immediately thither with 1000 Seapoys, some Gunners and Coffres with two Guns, some spare Arms and Ammunition. He will carry his own Company from Arcot, the rest he is to be supplied with from your Garrison, you will please therefore to prepare the Coffree Company eight Companies of Sepoys, six Gunners with two Guns, some spare Arms, ammunition and the necessary Bullocks in readiness to proceed immediately on his Arrival.

The President has wrote to the King of Tanjour, Moravar, Tondaman, Nellecotah & Catabominage Polygars to assist Mohofoz Cawn. Do you forward those Letters and also write to them on the same Subject.

We have directed Ussof Cawn to correspond constantly with you on what passes and to follow your Orders and Advice on all Occasions. You will therefore continually give him such Advice as you think will be useful to the Service, and communicate to us the News you may receive from him. We also desire that you will furnish him with such further Assistance as you shall find necessary upon any Emergency. We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants George Pigot—Stringer Lawrence—Henry Powney—Robert Orme—Alexander Wynch—William Percival—Robt. Palk.

Fort St. George
10th March 1756.

Major Kilpatrick arrived from Camp.

At a Committee

Present

Tuesday the 16th.

George Pigot Esqr. Governor President	
Stringer Lawrence	Henry Powney
Robert Orme	Alexander Wynch
William Percival	Robert Palk.

Receiv'd the following Letters from Captain William Lee.

To the Hoñble George Pigot Esqr President
& Governor &ca. Committee of Correspondence
at Fort St. George.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

When Major Kilpatrick left this Place the 7th in the Evening agreable to your Instructions he deliver'd over the Charge of the Army to me.

I am too sensible of the great honor you have done me in this nomination to omit the earliest Opportunity of making my acknowledgments of it, and shall endeavor by a close application and attendance on my Duty faithfully to discharge the Trust you have reposed in me.

Two French Men who call themselves Deserters, but were stopp'd by our Sepoys on the Velour Road going for that place with their Arms I have sent down to Madras.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MARCH 1756.*—— [16TH.]

this morning under a Guard of Sepoys; Mathew Holtman a Deserter from us taken up at Trinomalee a few days ago is unable to march or should have sent him at the same time.

Enclosed is the State of the Army as deliver'd over to me. I am with the greatest Respect Honble Sir & Sirs Your most Obliged most Obedient & most humble Servant

Arcot
9th March 1756.

WILLIAM LEE.

To the Hoñble George Pigot Esq^R. President
& Governor &c^A. Gentlemen of the Committee of
Correspondence at Fort St. George.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

I have receiv'd the honor of your Letter of the 8th Instant directed to Major James Kilpatrick with Bommerauze's Cadjan note enclosed.

Agreable to your Orders this morning early Muir Mahomets and Sidegodowns Companies of Sepoys marched for Carongoly of which I advised Messrs Gauppe and Bannatyne and that they were to remain there under orders.

Enclos'd is the General Court of Enquiry held on Shaick Meen Subedar containing two separate Lists the one an account of pay due to the Sepoys of his Company the other Batta and Monies received from the Nabob for which he has not properly accounted.

Isoff Cawn arrived this morning & proposes setting out for Trichenopoly the 13th. his Company & Serjeant Major Robinson is in readiness to march with him, He is not yet determin'd which of the Subedars he will take.

I shall use all possible care to prevent further Desertion among the Troops, and have posted Sepoy Guards on all the passes leading to Veloor, tho the Killedar of that Place has wrote that none of our Men are in his Fort. Enclos'd is a return of the Sepoys sent to Carongoly. I am with the greatest Respect Hoñble Sir & Sirs Your most Obliged most Obedient and most humble Servant

Arcot
March 11th 1756.

WILLIAM LEE.

Order'd that Captain Lee do put one Company of Sepoys under the Command of Captain Maskelyne for the Service of Arcot and the dependent Garrisons.

The following Letter from Captain John Caillaud read.

To the Hoñble George Pigot Esq^R. President
& Governor &c^A. Gentlemen of the Committee at Madras.

Honorable Sir & Sirs

No. 23.

I was favor'd with your last Letter No. 22 dated the 14th February.

The want of Bullocks makes the Grain not come in so fast as I could wish, to be able to send what I have long waited to do, an exact return of the State of your Magazines. The Quantity however is very secure; and as Affairs seem now to be settled, makes me less uneasy at its' laying out. I flatter myself tho by the End of the Month that this Business will be near settled and the Paddy in store. I have observ'd your Directions with regard to the charge I am to take of the Grain. The Price I can venture to assure you Gentlemen, as you have been pleased to leave it to my management, shall be taken care of to your Satisfaction.

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[16TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MARCH 1756.*——

I expect Bills from the Pollygar Securities on Buckanjees Agent here by the middle of the Month; and shall apply the Money when receiv'd according to your former directions in your Letter of the 9th of last August. "Whatever Money you receive from the Polygars you will bring to the Credit of the Commissary and keep it for the use of your Garrison &c[a]". This I shall observe unless Orders come to the contrary.

The Pullitavre and some Pollygars in conjunction have lately attack'd the Nadomandalum Country belonging to the Turnavelly District. Two Young Men Relations to Mohofoz Cawn who commanded a Party for the defence of that Country were foolish and hot headed enough to engage themselves in an Affair against the Pullitavre and were routed. The two Commanders and the remainder of the Men have thrown themselves into a Fort of the same Name with the Country; and there are beseiged by the Pullitavre and his Allies; Mohofoz Cawn is in great Anxiety for his two Relations and has wrote here for Advice and Assistance, As to the latter all that can be done for him is raising Sepoys and Topasses, I have promised him shall be pursued, with regard to the former I have advised him if he does not think the place strong enough to hold out, or that he cannot be assured of Success should he attempt to raise the Seige; that the best for him is to make such a Motion with his Army as will secure the retreat of the Garrison, and by no means to run any risque but by acting on the defensive secure the remainder of the Country.

The promise of pardon according to order is gone to the Deserters in that Country.

Inclos'd I have the honor to transmit the Monthly accounts and Returns of this Garrison. I am with great Respect; Hoñble Sir & Sirs Your most Obedient and faithful Servant

Trichenopoly
2d March 1756.

JOHN CAILLAUD.

Order'd that Captain Caillaud do bring to the Credit of the Commissary whatever Money he may receive from the Pollygars; regarding the Disturbances in Tinnevelly, Directions were sent him the 11th. Instant.

Receiv'd the following Letter from Messrs. Fairfield and Call with the Depositions of sundry Inhabitants of the Village of Ariavetty, taken by them on the Spot the 2d Instant in consequence of our Order made the 26th. February last.

TO THE HOÑBLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQR. PRESIDENT AND GOVERNOR AND THE GENTLEMEN OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

In obedience to your Orders communicated to us by Mr. Starke we proceeded to Ariavetty and have there taken the Depositions of the Chief Inhabitants relating to their Complaints against the Dutch and French set forth in a Petition which the Trevenduporam Renters lately deliver'd to the Deputy Governor of Fort St. David a Copy of these Depositions we have the honor to enclose herewith; and to prevent as far as possible any Prevarications or contradictions in Case of further Enquiry we have got the General Sense of the same Depositions wrote in Malabar and sign'd by Six of the Principal Inhabitants, which we conceived were as sufficient to attest the truth of their Complaints as any greater number which we might have had. Besides what we learnt from these Depositions we made several other enquiries relating to the Matter of Complaint and upon the whole observed that the Renters and Inhabitants were very jealous lest the Dutch should have a Design to render that Part of the Village, where they live independent of the other, which Design the Dutch seem to be favour'd in by a Brook naturally dividing the Village into two Parts. And indeed from a Survey which we took of Ariavetty it appear'd as if the Renters had real Cause for their Complaints and apprehensions; for as large a part

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MARCH 1756.*—— [16TH.]

of the Village as that now in Subjection to the Renters is inhabited by the Dutch and their Dependents, where we Saw (as has been Deposed) a Flag Staff and Guards posted before the house of the Chief. We were also shewn a Spot near the River belonging to Ariavetty to which they say the Dutch have some thoughts of transferring their Factory from Portonovo.

The Village of Ariavetty is at present very stragling and unconnected, and as we were inform'd does not contain above 10 families, whereas it formerly contain'd Sixty, but many of them have been enticed to settle at Porto Novo. The Situation of the Village is thus, On the West and North Sides it is open to the Country, on the East Side it joins to the Hedge, which incloses Porto Novo, the South Side extends along a River about two Miles distant from the Sea and the South West part of it joins to the Houses of one street dependent on the District of Chellumbrum, so that being thus Surrounded and intermixt with other Districts it is not to be wonder'd at that Disputes arise about the extent of the Several Possessions. However they either have or pretend to have Stones and Marks (which they shew'd us) to regulate the extent of each Country. That Country which belongs to Ariavetty entirely surrounds the Hedge of Porto Novo on the North and West, the Sea shuts it in on the East and a River on the South so that Porto Novo has nothing more dependent on it than what is contain'd within the Limits of the Town Hedge; from whence it certainly is in the power of the Inhabitants of Ariavetty if supported greatly to distress the Inhabitants of Porto Novo, on the other hand the District of Ariavetty is Separated from the other Dependencies of Trevenduporum by a Village call'd Materpolleam which is dependent on Bonaguery & by a Country call'd Tritinnevelly. We have only to add on this Subject that the Distance of Ariavetty as measured by a Perambulator is about 16 Miles to the Southward of the bound Hedge of Fort St. David just beyond Cuddalore and that we are very Respectfully, Honble Sir & Sirs, Your most Obedient and most faithful Servants

Fort St. David — RICHD. FAIRFIELD.
4th March 1756. — JOHN CALL.

Depositions of some of the Principal Inhabitants of Ariavetty a Village belonging to the District of Trevenduporum, relating to Several Infringements made in the said Village by the Dutch and French from Porto Novo. Taken on the Spot 2d March 1756.

First with respect to the Dutch.

Allagapudiachy Head Farmer under the Trevenduporum Renters whose family has resided at Ariavetty for many Generations and himself from a Child, Deposeth that about forty or fifty years ago, Visvenada Reddy's Father being then one of the Merchants who contracted with the Dutch at Portonovo for their Cloth Investment and at the same time Renter of the Trevenduporum Districts for the greater Convenience of Washing and Bleaching Cloth, did consent that Straw Houses should be built in the said Village for the Residence of the Washers, and soon after a small Brick Godown for lodging Cloth which Buildings the Dutch have used for the same Purpose 'till now. But that lately since this District became the Honorable Company's they have without any Permission whatsoever enlarged their Buildings and made them a Place of Residence for the Dutch Chief and his Servants both Military and Civil. They also hoist their Colours there; Discipline their Troops, post Centinels and exercise the same Authority as they do in their Factory at Porto Novo. Nor is this all, for contrary to former practices they now protect their Dependents in refusing to pay the usual Juncan on Provisions of every kind, and have encouraged several People to settle near them, over whom they assume an absolute Authority. They have also taken in several Spots of Ground, converted them to Paddy fields or tilled other Grain thereof and carried off the Produce without paying any Sort of acknowledgment.

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[16TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MARCH 1756.*——

Cavandapudiachy & Shavandapudy Chitty head Inhabitants of Ariavetty, Shapamadapudiachy and Shinnapulla Farmers, and Shinniapilla Conicoply of the Village confirm all that Allagapudiachy deposes and farther add to shew the disputing Payment of Juncan is a late Innovation made by the Dutch; That when the Trevenduporum District belonged to the Country Government it happen'd some of the Dutch Dependants then (as they do now) converted certain Spots of Ground to tillage & on refusing to pay Juncan the Avaldar of Ariavetty sent People and carried off the produce without Molestation. And that during the late Troubles several Inhabitants of the Country who for security had permission to lodge their Goods in the Dutch Washing house, made no Objection to paying the usual Duty.

Secondly with respect to the French.

Allagapudiachy, Cavandapudiachy Shavandapudiachy Chitty, Shapamandapudiachy, Shinnapulla and Shinnapilla all inhabiting the Village of Ariavetty Depose. That the Dependants of the French from Porto Novo frequently enter the Village of Ariavetty and by force take fish, Coconuts, Plantains &c[a] paying for them, or not just as they please, and particularly fish which is frequently forced away to Porto Novo from that part of the Sea Shore which belongs to Ariavetty in extent three or four Miles to the Northward of Porto Novo Bound hedge, which practices are now carried on notwithstanding the frequent applications of the Inhabitants of Ariavetty to the French Commandant for redress. That some of the Inhabitants of Porto Novo being proprietors of Palmeira Topes or Gardens in Ariavetty Dependence did formerly pay an acknowledgment to the Renters of that Village and also permit them to sow Grain in the Vacant Spots within the inclosures of the said Topes or Gardens but within these two Years the Inhabitants of Porto Novo owners of the said Topes or Gardens have refused to make any kind of acknowledgment for the produce of their Trees tho at the same time they permit the Ariavetty people to occupy the vacant Spots as before. That when Grain or other Merchandize coming from the Country for sale was lodged only one Night in the Village of Ariavetty Juncan was always collected thereon both in the time of the Moors Government and ever since Porto Novo has been in the hands of the French till Shidumbranadapillah was appointed their Avaldar, He has lately prevented all grain going to Porto Novo from paying any Juncan at Ariavetty and has also taken forcible Measures to prevent the Sale of Grain in the Village. The said Avaldar also excludes the Inhabitants of Ariavetty from selling Grain or other Commodities at Porto Novo and endeavours as much as possible by other means to Distress them.

Maury Chitty one of the Inhabitants of Ariavetty and by Profession a Merchant Deposeth That about forty Years ago he contracted for a quantity of Grain which came from the Westward and was deliver'd him in Ariavetty where he sold part of it, but as soon as the French Avaldar heard that he had purchased such a quantity of Grain and lodged it at Ariavetty he sent twenty Sepoys to bring the said Maury Chitty to Porto Novo but the Inhabitants of Ariavetty interposing hinder'd the Sepoys from carrying him away. That a few days after the said Maury Chitty going to Porto Novo about his ordinary Business was their Seized by the French Avaldar and confin'd till he had Sign'd a Bond to forfeit 120 Pagodas if he ever purchased any more Grain for Sale at Ariavetty and engaged himself to sell whatever he traded in at Porto Novo; And that in consequence of such Engagement he was obliged to sell the remaining Part of the abovemention'd Grain and several Quantities since at Porto Novo.

The aforesaid Six Principal Inhabitants of Ariavetty all Depose, that they saw the Sepoys come to carry Maura Chitty by force to Porto Novo and prevented him from being carried away, that to their knowledge he was soon after seized and confin'd at Porto Novo, and that on his Return to Ariavetty he declar'd to them the same Circumstances he hath now Deposed; All which Depositions they have given under their hand and are ready to confirm on Oath whenever it shall be required.

Resolv'd that a Copy of the Depositions regarding the Dutch be sent to the Governor of Negapatam, and of those regarding the French to the Governor of

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MARCH 1756.*—— [16ra.]

Pondichery with Letters desiring them to give Orders to prevent for the future the Practice of any Innovations or Violences in the Village of Ariavetty belonging to the Company.

The following Letter from Richard Starke Esqr. Read with Copy of one address'd to him by Colonel Adlercron.

To the Hoñble the President and Governor
& the Gentlemen for conducting Country Affairs.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

I have receiv'd your favour of the 7th Instant inclosing a Letter for Colonel Adlercron which after Perusal I seald and deliver'd, and having desired to know whether he would make a Demand in writing for what Stores he might want and order the proper Officer to give a Receipt at the Back for such as are deliver'd, He has wrote me a Letter in answer by the inclos'd Copy of which you will observe he expects Oil, Water &c^a to be supplied his Troops, which being Articles they cannot do without, I have taken the Liberty to order our Paymaster to continue 'till I receive your final Answer, and knowing the great Inconvenience the Officers must be Subject to if those same Allowances are at once taken from them, I have directed him to continue them also 'till the last of this Month which I hope will meet with your approbation; The General Account and Copies of all their Demands &c^a shall be sent you as soon as done.

The several owners of the hired Bullocks having promised to return them when demanded for the Company's Service, I have directed the whole Number of 148 to be deliver'd back to them; I am with Respect Hoñble Sir & Sirs Your most Obedient humble Servant

Fort S^t. David
12 March 1756.

Richard Starke.

To Richard Starke Esqr.
Deputy Governor of Fort S^t. David.

Sir

As it is highly reasonable that his Majesty's Troops should be treated no worse than those of the Company I expect they will be furnish'd as they have all along been in the same manner as your own Soldiers are, with Oil, Water &c^a. and the Quarter Masters, to whose Province it belongs shall if required sign the Accounts Monthly which will be a Sufficient Voucher.

In case the exigency of Affairs shou'd occasion an Application for our marching, Estimates shall be given in by the proper Officers of whatever is wanting, whom I shall likewise order to give Receipts upon the delivery thereof, and if we are not provided with every thing agreable to those Estimates, I will not suffer his Majesty's Troops to move and the Company's Managers here must abide by the consequences.

I am Sir
Your most Obedient humble Servant
(Sign'd) John Adlercron.

Garden House
12th March 1756.

Agreed that Oyl and Water be Supplied according to Colonel Adlercron's Request upon the Quarter Masters Receipts, and Order'd that M^r. Starke do transmit us Monthly, all Vouchers for Disbursements on account of the Regiment.

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[16th.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MARCH 1756.*——

Captain Polier writes that he shall set out for Fort St. David the 12th leaving the Command of Changleput to Lieutenant Zeigler, And Captain Maskelyne writes that the French Army having left their Encampment near to BalChitty's Choultry are march'd close to Gingee.

GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
AR. WYNCH.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.
ROBT. PALK.

Sent a Letter of this date from the President to Mr. De Leyrit as enter'd in the French Correspondence No. 20 also the following Letters to Stephen Vermont Esqr., Governor of Negaptam [*sic*]; Richard Starke Esqr. Captain Caillaud and Captain Lee pursuant to the Resolutions of the foregoing Committee.

TO THE HOÑBLE STEPHEN VERMONT ESQR.
GOVERNOR FOR THE NETHERLANDS EAST INDIA COMPANY
ON THE COAST OF CHOROMANDEL.

Hoñble Sir

Having lately received Information of some Irregularities committed by your People at Porto Novo in a Village nam'd Ariavetty of the Trevenduporum District belonging to the English Company I sent two Gentlemen to enquire upon the Spot concerning the Truth of the Representation that had been made to me, being resolved not to trouble you with any Complaint untill I should be certainly inform'd of all Circumstances.

The two Gentlemen went accordingly and took the Depositions of the Head Inhabitants concerning all that has pass'd lately in the said Village Copies of the Depositions I have the honor to transmit you herewith desiring that you will be pleased to put an End to the Irregular Practices therein set forth, by regarding the said Village as a Dependence of the English Company, forbidding your Colours to be hoisted or any Military force to be posted there, and ordering the usual Juncans of former times to be paid. On my Part Sir you may be assur'd of my readiness to give Protection and Assistance to your People and your Trade on all occasions while they shall conform themselves to the Establish'd and well known Customs of the Country.

I have the honor to be with the most perfect Respect and Esteem

Hoñble Sir
Your most Obedient humble Servant

GEORGE PIGOT.

Fort St. George
16 March 1756.

N.B.—The Depositions abovemention'd are enter'd in the foregoing Committee.

TO RICHARD STARKE ESQR.
DEPUTY GOVERNOR OF FORT ST. DAVID.

Sir

We have receiv'd your Letters dated the 4th & 12 Instant with the Papers inclosed.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MARCH 1756.*—— [16th.]

You may deliver the Oyl and Water to the Regiment upon the Quarter Master's Receipts, and send us up in future the Vouchers for every Disbursement monthly. You are to advance Money to Mr. Call for the maintenance of the Bullocks bought on the Company's Account, and charge the Commissary Mr. Orme with the said Advances.

Please to forward to Negapatam the inclosed Letter on the Subject of the Encroachments of the Dutch at Ariavetty. We have wrote also to Mr. Leyrit you will advise us if any Alterations are made there upon these Representations. We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants GEORGE PIGOT—STRINGER LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY—ROBT. ORME—ALEXR. WYNCH—WM. PERCEVAL—ROBT. PALK.

Fort St. George
16th March 1756.

To CAPTAIN JOHN CAILLAUD.

Sir No. 25

We have received your Letter dated the 2d. of this Month, concerning the Disposal of the Money you may receive from the Polygars, You will please to follow our former Directions of the 9th August last.

We have already acquainted you of our Resolution to send Mahomed Usoof Cawn to assist Mohofoz Cawn in Tinnevelly, and given you our Directions on the Subject. We inclose a Letter of Instructions which you will deliver to him and we send likewise a Copy for your Perusal. We are Sir Your most Obedt. Servants GEORGE PIGOT—STRINGER LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY—ROBERT ORME—ALEXANDER WYNCH—WILLIAM PERCEVAL—ROBERT PALK.

Fort St. George
16th March 1756.

To CAPTAIN WILLIAM LEE.

Sir

We have receiv'd your Letters of the 9th and 11th. The two Frenchmen are arrived; hereafter when any French Deserters come to Camp, you may send them at once to the nearest French Garrison and there deliver them up in consequence of the Cartel. Any Deserters from our Troops that may be taken, you are to detain at Arcot, for as a Court Martial may as well be held there, we would save the trouble of sending them down.

Put another Company of Seapoys under the Command of Captain Maskelyne for the Service of Arcot and the Dependent Garrisons and with regard to the Subedar Shaik meen you will give Directions that he be tryed in the usual Manner for which Purpose we return you the Court of Enquiry and the Paper accompanying it.

We desire you will continue the Endeavours Major Kilpatrick was using for the Receipt of the amount of Bommerauze's Cadjan Note and the Bill for Sixty five thousand Rupees.

Please to give Permission to Lieutenants Hume and Paschoud to come to Madras, Captain Innis has made the same Request, but as he is the only Captain with you we imagine his Presence may be necessary, we leave it therefore to you to give him leave if he can be spared.

We inclose a Letter to Murtaz ally Cawn which you will please to forward by one of the Company's Seapoys. We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants

Fort St. George
16 March 1756. GEORGE PIGOT &cA. COMMITTEE.

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[16TH] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MARCH 1756.*——

Inclos'd in the Letter to Captain Caillaud went the following Instructions to be by him deliver'd to Mahomed Usoff Cawn the Nellour Subedar in consequence of the Resolutions made the 8th. Instant.

To Mahomed Usoff Cawn, the Nellour Subedar.

14TH March 1756.

As I have a great Dependance on your good Conduct, Bravery and Fidelity to the Company I have thought proper to entrust you with the Command of a Reinforcement to be sent to Mohofoz Cawn in order to Quell the Disturbances which the Pollygars have raised in the Ternavelly Country. You are to carry with you one thousand Seapoys, some Coffres, and six Gunners with two Guns, you may take your own Company of Seapoys from Arcot and Captain Caillaud will supply you with the rest at Trichenopoly, and the proper Stores, With these you are to proceed with all Expedition to join Mahofoz Cawn, consult with him concerning the proper measures to be taken to reduce the Pollygars to good Order and settle the Country and act accordingly. I entrust you not only with Military Affairs but also with the Management of the Company's other Concerns in the Madura and Tinnevelly Countries, which are as follows. Mohofoz Cawn is indebted to the Company on account of the Rent of Tinnevelly according to his Agreement with Colonel Heron, one hundred and twenty one thousand Rupees which I desire you will demand and receive. Besides this the Nabob agreed with the Company that they should have half of all the Revenues of Madura and Tinnevelly, and also half of whatever Sums the Pollygars might pay; Colonel Heron let the Countries only for three Months beginning in April 1755. You will therefore enquire what the Countries have been let for since, and what the Pollygars have paid since and receive half the Amount for the Company, and also Settle a Method for the future Payment of the Share due to the Company in a regular manner. Whatever Money you receive must be remitted to Captain Caillaud to whom you will communicate the Occurrences that may happen & follow his Orders and Advice on all Occasions.

Thus I have entrusted you with a Business of great Importance, not doubting but you will act therein so as to gain an advantage to the Company and the Nabob, and to Yourself a good Name, Reputation and future favor.

At a Committee

Present

Monday the 22ND March.

George Pigot Esq^R. Governor President
Stringer Lawrence — Henry Powney
Robert Orme — Alexander Wynch
William Percival — Robert Palk.

Letter from the Nabob Read as enter'd in the Country Correspondence N°. 70, inclosing Copies of two Letters from Mahofoz Cawn at Tinnevelly which advise that his Relation Abdul Maley Cawn who was Block'd up in Nadamandelum was obliged to Surrender that Fort to the Rebels, himself having Liberty to pass with a small Baggage to Tinnevelly. That the Affairs of that Country being render'd by this Event more and more Desperate he (Mohofoz Cawn) found it necessary to make a Friend of the Polygar Catabominaigue, who had engaged to assist him on certain Conditions; one of which is that the Hostage he gave to Colonel Heron as Security for fourteen thousand (14,000) Chuckrums, be released from Terchenopoly and sent to him; the Sum for which he is bound to be paid to our Order at Tinnevelly. The Nabob desires therefore we will give Orders to Captain Caillaud to send the said

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MARCH 1756.*—— [22D.]

Hostage to Tinnevelly and further, as the Strength of the Rebellious Pollygars is much increased, he begs that an Assistance of Europeans may be sent to Mohofoz Cawn and a Party of two or three hundred Sepoys order'd from Trichenopoly to remain at Madura for the Security of that Fort.

Agreed that Catabominaige's Hostage be sent under the Care of the Nellour Subidar with Orders that he be deliver'd to that Pollygar as soon as he (the Nellour Subedar) shall be assur'd of Payment of the fourteen thousand (14,000) Chuckrums. And that Captain Caillaud have discretional Orders to Send two or three hundred Seapoys for the Defence of Madura if he shall find it necessary. With regard to the other Request of the Nabob, that a European Force be sent to Tinnevelly; The Committee remain in their Opinion of the 8th. Instant, for Besides the Objections therein made, Viz^t. The Danger of alarming the French, and the Increase of Expences; there is another very material Reason against detaching a Party of Europeans to Tinnevelly; Such a Party could not properly consist of less than three hundred Men, which we are of Opinion it would be very imprudent to remove to so great a Distance, at a time when we are in almost daily Expectation of receiving Final Orders from Europe, and when it is so great a Doubt whether those Orders will be for Peace or War. The Committee are besides of Opinion that the Nellour Subedar with the Force under his Command will be at least able to prevent the Rebel Pollygars from extending their Conquests farther if not to reduce them to their former Bounds, It is therefore Agreed to explain to the Nabob our Reasons for not complying with that part of his Request.

Letter from the Pollygar Bommerauze with Copies of two Agreements (all enter'd N°. 73 in the Country Correspondence) Read. Major Kilpatrick upon the Receipt of our Orders to endeavor to recover the Money due from Bommerauze; having sent a Vackeel to demand it. Bommerauze gave him these fresh Agreements, by one of which he binds himself to pay to the Company Eight thousand (8,000) Polyput Pagodas in different Payments before the 8th of April and by the other to discharge his Cadjan Note for Seventy thousand (70,000) Rupees in fifteen days.

Order'd that Copies of the said Agreements be sent to Captain Lee with Directions that he forward the Execution of them as much as possible.

Letter from Captain Maskelyne read inclosing Copy of the Proceedings of the General Court Martial held at Arcot by virtue of a Warrant from Colonel Adlercron, and advising that he shall send down the Bengal Topass, who is acquitted of the Murder of which he was accused.

Mr Andrew Newton delivers in an Account of his Expences going to and coming from Tanjour and during his Residence there from June 1754 to February 1756, Inclusive; amounting to Pagodas Three thousand seven hundred and Eighteen, Sixteen fanams (3718–16) of which he has received from Mr Starke Pagodas two thousand five hundred (2500); The Ballance he desires may be paid him.

There appearing a Charge of two hundred (200) Pagodas for Cloaths &c^a. stole out of his house, which the Committee do not think it reasonable the Company should pay, Order'd that it be deducted from the Ballance and also that some Household Furniture therein charged be deliver'd to the Steward.

And although the Committee do think the Expences too high in many of the Articles, yet as M^r. Newton declares it is a just account, nay, that he has even incurred some other Charges not included there, as he could not recollect the Particulars, It is Agreed that the Commissary do discharge the remaining Ballance of Pagodas one thousand and eighteen, sixteen fanams (1018—16).

But in order to prevent in future the Inconvenience of admitting and examining Bills of Expences; It is now made a standing Order that no Person whatever be hereafter sent out on Publick Service without a Fix'd Allowance previously settled.

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[22D.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MARCH 1756.*——

The President acquaints the Committee that pursuant to the Resolution of the 5th Instant, he sent for Ninar the Renter of Changleput Country who has engag'd to deliver twenty Garse of new Paddy for the Store of that Fort within the next Month at the Rate of 36 Pagodas ℔ Garce.

GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
AR. WYNCH.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.
ROBT PALK.

[24TH.] Receiv'd the following Letter from Captain Lee.

To GEORGE PIGOT ESQR. PRESIDENT AND GOVERNOR

& THE GENTLEMEN OF THE COMMITTEE OF CORRESPONDENCE AT FORT ST: GEORGE.

Honble Sir & Sirs

I have receiv'd the honor of your Letter of the 6 Instant and immediately sent away by a Seapoy the one for Mortaz Ally Cawn who is just return'd with the enclos'd Answer.

Agreable to your Orders Shaick Doud's Company of Sepoys are put under the Command of Captain Maskelyne and a Court Martial compos'd of all the Subedars present will sit tomorrow on Shaick Meen which as soon as finish'd shall transmit you.

By a Letter from Narang (who was Major Kilpatrick's Linguist and sent by him, at the desire of Bommerauze's Vackeel with a promise the Sums he owed to the Company shou'd be immediately paid) I am inform'd he has not yet been able to get any Money, but that they assur'd him in 15 days from the 16th Instant they would either pay 70,000 Rupees in part, or give Soucars Bills for that Sum, He is apprehensive they intend to trifle and only make these Promises to gain time, and what still confirms it is their refusing to pay Batta according to Agreement to 70 Seapoys sent with Narang at Bommerauze's own desire under a Pretence of delivering over quantities of Paddy for raising part of the above Sum which they were to have the care of 'till it could be sold to the Merchants. As I don't find he has got possession of any Grain or likely to do so, I have order'd him to return the Seapoys to Arcot or at least such part as are not of immediate use to save the Expence of Batta, I don't believe Moodin Saib Amuldar of Timery will undertake to be Security for the Money on the Conditions Narang told Major Kilpatrick he had offer'd; I have wrote him & also to Bommerauze in the strongest Terms to oblige him to comply with his Engagements, and shall use my utmost Endeavors to get the Bills paid.

I have acquainted Lieutenant Hume that you have been pleased to grant him permission to go to Madras and Lieutenant Paschoud in consequence of a Letter from the President set out some days ago, Captain Innis is very desirous of going down for ten days to settle some Private Affairs, if therefore you are pleased to approve it I believe there is no particular Duty for him while the Army continues at Arcot, that he cannot be dispensed with for so short a time.

I shall observe your Directions in respect to any Deserters that may hereafter be taken, also in returning to the nearest French Garrison any of their People that may desert to us, Enclos'd is the Return of Shaick Doud's Company of Sepoys. I am with the greatest Respect, Hble Sir & Sirs Your most Obliged most Obedt & most humble Servant

Arcot
21st March 1756

WILLM LEE.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MARCH 1756.*—— [25TH.]

Sent the following Letters to Captain Caillaud, and Captain Lee pursuant to the Resolutions of last Committee. 25:

To CAPTAIN JOHN CAILLAUD.

Sir No. 26.

Mahofoz Cawn writes the Nabob that finding it of consequence in the management of Affairs at Tinnevelly to have the Assistance of the Polygar Catabominaigue he had engaged his Friendship by a Promise to release the Security given by him to Colonel Heron for fourteen thousand Chuckrums, which Security is now at Trichenopoly, Catabominaigue promising at the same time to pay the Sum he is bound for to our Order at Tinnevelly. Upon these Considerations we think proper to direct that you send the said Security under the Care of Usoff Cawn with Instructions to deliver him up as soon as he is assured of receiving the Money.

If by your Intelligence you shall have reason to think the Pollygars have a Design to attack the Fort of Madura we would have you add another Company of Sepoys to Usoph Cawn's Command, directing him to leave two or three hundred at Madura under the Command of a good Serjeant. We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants GEORGE PIGOT—STRINGER LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY—ROBT. ORME—ALEXR. WYNCH—WILLM. PERCEVAL—ROBT. PALK.

Fort St. George
25 March 1756.

To CAPTAIN WILLIAM LEE.

Sir

We inclose you Copies of a Letter the President receiv'd from Bommerauze, and of the Agreements given by him for the Payment of the Money due to the Company. Let the Dubash Stay and endeavor to get the Agreements perform'd, but let him stay without Sepoys or any such expensive Attendance.

Frederick Williams is to be paid 15 Pagodas a Month as Master Carpenter when he is not upon Batta and when he does receive Batta his pay is to be 8 Pagodas a Month only. After this manner we desire he may be paid from the 1st of January last.

We have just received your Letter of the 21st with Murtaz ally Cawn's answer, Your Intentions with regard to Bommerauze very well correspond with our foregoing Directions. We are Sir Your most Obedt Servants

Fort St. George
25th March 1756. GEORGE PIGOT &Co. COMMITTEE.

Receiv'd a Letter from Mr. De Leyrit to the President dated the 26th Instant as enter'd in the French Correspondence No. 24. 28TH.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

GEORGE PIGOT ESQR.	GOVERNOR PRESIDENT	TUESDAY
STRINGER LAWRENCE	HENRY POWNEY	THE 30TH.
ROBERT ORME	ALEXANDER WYNCH	
WILLIAM PERCEVAL	ROBERT PALK.	

Mr. De Leyrit's Letter No. 24 contains a Complaint against our Commissaries grounded on a Representation made to Mr. De Leyrit by Mr. Durocher (the French Commissary) of our Sepoys driving out theirs by Armed Force from a Mosque or

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[80TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MARCH 1756.*——

Choultry in Cadapery where they used to reside, and concludes with a Declaration that if we do not recall our Sepoys from the said Mosque or Choultry he will order Mr. Durocher to return to Pondichery.

Letter at the same time from our Commissaries read as enter'd in their Proceedings No. 11 containing an account of the Event complain'd of by Mr. De Leyrit; That as they had not room enough for their Sepoys in their Choultry at Madarantegum they sent twenty to quarter themselves in a Choultry at Cadapery which was occupied by nobody; that Mr. Durocher march'd with above a hundred Armed Seapoys to attack the Choultry, that one of the French Seapoys drew his Sword and aim'd a Cut at one of ours who parried it and Snatch'd the Scabbard from him, and that Mr. Bannatyne arriving in the mean time with an Assistance, Mr. Durocher and the French Seapoys retreated.

Cadapery being a Village belonging incontestably to us it is surprizing that Mr. De Leyrit should pretend to dispute our Right to quarter our People there; True it is that the French Seapoys lodged themselves at the beginning of the Commission in a Pagoda belonging to that Village and when we complain'd of it as a Violation of our Right it was put upon the footing of Necessity pleading that our Seapoys having taken up the Choultry at Madarantegum there was no place left for theirs to lodge in except the Pagoda of Cadapery, but the Choultry or Mosque now in question was vacant when our Commissaries found it necessary to quarter some of their seapoys there for want of Room in Madarantegum.

Resolv'd therefore, upon the Consideration of all the foregoing Circumstances, that our Commissaries be Directed to keep the Seapoys lodg'd in the Choultry of Cadapery, but to be very careful not to insult the French Seapoys or to be Authors of any Disturbance, and in Answer to Mr. De Leyrit it is Agreed to give him a Detail of the above Reasons why we cannot withdraw our Sepoys from the Choultry in question remarking to him at the same time that it is evident he is more inclin'd than we to promote Hostilities in the Contested Districts by his not concurring with our repeated Proposal to withdraw all Seapoys and Armed Persons on both Sides.

Another Letter from our Commissaries dated 23d March as enter'd No. 10 read, containing a Recital of their endeavors to get the Accounts of the Harvest from the Inhabitants, how far these Endeavors have succeeded and in what Points they have been prevented by the French; that most of the Northern Districts have given in their Accounts, but the Southern, where the French Amuldar has a strong Interest refuse to do it by reason that it will be made appear by those Accounts how much they have been forced to pay separate to the French since the Time of the Commissaryship.

Agreed to direct our Commissaries to insist on receiving the Accounts from the Inhabitants before they suffer them to carry away the Grain, and in case the Southern Sumets persist in their Refusal to secure an equivalent in the Northern by seeing that the French receive nothing from thence.

The following Letter from Richard Starke Esqr. Read.

To THE HOÑBLE THE PRESIDENT AND GOVERNOR
& THE GENTLEMEN FOR CONDUCTING COUNTRY AFFAIRS.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

I have receiv'd your favor of the 16th Instant inclosing a Letter for the Governor of Negapatam which is forwarded. Should any Alterations be made at Ariavetty in consequence of that and the Letter you have wrote Mr. Leyrit, I shall not fail to advise thereof.

I deliver'd on the 16th Instant the Articles of Complaint against Captain Henry Schaub, and now transmit you Copy of the Sentence of the General Court Martial held the 18th in consequence thereof. Captain Polier will set out to morrow for Changlepet

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——*FORT S^T. GEORGE, MARCH 1756.*—— [30TH.]

Inclos'd is a Letter from M^r. Call to me on the Subject of the Tumbrils &c^a. indented for by the Regiment and Train, on which you will please to favor me with your Directions; I am with respect

Hoñble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedient humble Servant
RICH^d STARKE.

Fort S^t. David
20 March 1756.

Copy of the Sentence of the General Court Martial held on Captain Henry Schaub the 18th March 1756.

"The Court then took the Matter of the whole Proceedings before them into "Consideration; They acquit the Prisoner Captain Henry Schaub of the neglect of "Duty with which he is charged in the first Article of Complaint and find him "guilty of Disrepect only; but deem the Submission he actually made to the Deputy "Governor, and the long Confinement he has labour'd under, as more than Sufficient "for the Crime of which he is found guilty."

"As to the Second Article of Complaint the Court unanimously acquit the said "Captain Henry Schaub."

TO THE WORSHIPFUL RICHARD STARKE ESQ^R.

Sir

Of the Tumbrils and Carts indented for by Colonel Adlercron and Captain Hislop to carry Stores and Ammunition for the Troops and Guns, I have compleated and am now preparing the following.

In the Artillery Park at Tevenepatam
for 6 Guns compleat.
10 Tumbrils
1 Baggage for the Commanding Officer of the Artillery.

At the Fort compleat
6 Tumbrils
2, Cover'd Carts for the Surgeons of the Regiment & Artillery.

In the Carpenters Yard
4 Tumbril Boxes finish'd, and
4 Pair of Wheels, so that nothing but 'Axle Trees and Poles are wanting to compleat four Tumbrils more.
4 Pair of Tumbrils Wheels about half finished.

Besides the abovemention'd, several other Stores have been made and deliver'd such as Tent Poles, Handspikes, Mallets, Tent Pins &c^a. and the Carriages for Guns as well as the Tumbrils now with Captain Hislop have been all repair'd since the beginning of February. Please to let me know if I am to begin any more Tumbrils when those now in hand are compleated. I am very respectfully Sir Your most Obedient and most humble Servant

Fort S^t. David
20th March 1756.

JOHN CALL.

As Colonel Adlercron declares positively in his Letter enter'd on these Minutes the 16 Instant, that unless every thing is provided agreable to his Demands, he will not Suffer his Majesty's Troops to move, it is Agreed to direct M^r. Starke to compleat the whole Number of Tumbrils and Carts indented for by Colonel Adlercron and Captain Hislop; the rather as it will be proper always to keep up a good Store of those Carriages. Agreed also to Direct M^r. Starke to apply for a Copy of the Proceedings of the General Court Martial held on Captain Schaub and transmit it to us.

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[30TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MARCH 1756.*——

Letter from Captain Lee read as follows.

To THE HONORABLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQR. PRESIDENT & GOVERNOR AND THE GENTLEMEN OF THE COMMITTEE AT FORT STR. GEORGE.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

Since I did myself the honor to write you yesterday Narang has sent me 1100 Polyput Pagodas receiv'd from Murmalong in part of 8,000 which he became Security for to the Company and tells me he is in hopes of receiving the remainder soon, as the Money is paid into his hands, as they dispose of the Grain to the Merchants; He also is assur'd by Bommerauze that he will be punctual to his promise in discharging the Cadjan Note at the Expiration of the 15 days; The above Sum of 1100 Pagodas I have paid to Mr. Maunsel, who has given his Receipt to Meer Malong for it.

Yesterday the Bengal Topass who was tried for Murder at the late General Court Martial and acquitted and another detain'd as an Evidence I sent down to Madras under charge of 6 Sepoys.

I have enclos'd the Sentence of the Court Martial pass'd on Shaick Meen Subedar, the latter part of which I believe is not in his power, for I am inform'd at the time he stopp'd this Money he liv'd in a very extravagant manner and that he has not now one Rupee left. I am with the greatest Respect, Hoñble Sir & Sirs Your most Obliged most Obedient & most hble Servant

Arcot
22d March 1756. WILLIAM LEE.

Order'd that the Subedar, Shaick Meen, he dismiss'd the Service pursuant to the Sentence of the Court Martial.

Letter from Captain Polier at Changleput Read, requesting a Reinforcement of fifty Seapoys, the Small Number he now has being insufficient for the Garrison Duty.

Agreed to write the Commissaries to send fifty Sepoys to Changeleput from Carongoly if they can be spared from their immediate Occasions, the Distance being so Small, they may call for them again upon any Emergency.

GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
AR. WYNCH.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.
ROBT. PALK.

Sent the following Letter to Richard Starke Esqr pursuant to the Resolutions of last Committee.

To RICHARD STARKE ESQR.
DEPUTY GOVERNOR OF FORT STR. DAVID.

Sir

We have receiv'd your Letter of the 20th. inclosing the Sentence of the Court Martial held on Captain Schaub and a Letter from Mr. Call.

We would have the whole number of Tumbrils and Carts indented for by Colonel Adlercron and Captn. Hislop compleated as fast as they conveniently can. We should be glad of a Copy of the Proceedings of the Court Martial held on Captain Schaub; as you was the Prosecutor you may apply in your own Name for such a Copy and transmit it to us.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MARCH 1756.*—— [30TH.]

Mr. Bonjour is intended for the Artillery. We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants GEORGE PIGOT—STRINGER LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY—ROBERT ORME—ALEXANDER WYNCH—WILLIAM PERCEVAL—ROBERT PALK.

Fort St. George
31st March 1756.

Sent a Letter of this date from the President to Mr. De Leyrit as Enter'd No. 25 APRIL 1ST. also the following Letter to Captn. Lee pursuant to the Resolutions of last Committee.

To CAPTAIN WILLIAM LEE.

Sir

We have receiv'd your Letter dated 22d Instant and are glad to find that a part of the Money due from Bommerauze is paid. We doubt not of your Care to get the whole as soon as possible.

The Subedar Shaick Meen must be dismiss'd the Service pursuant to the Sentence of the Court Martial held on him as to the Repayment of the Money we judge with you that it is impossible. We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants

Fort St. George
1st April 1756. GEORGE PIGOT &Co. COMMITTEE.

Receiv'd a Letter from Mr. De Leyrit to the President dated 31st. March, accompanied with a Memorial and Several other Pieces relative to the Affairs of the Contested Districts, in answer to the President's of the 12th, 20th and 21st November last. This Letter from Mr. De Leyrit and the Papers it contain'd are enter'd in the French Correspondence under No. 26. 3d.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present FRIDAY THE 9TH.

GEORGE PIGOT ESQR.	GOVERNOR PRESIDENT
STRINGER LAWRENCE	HENRY POWNEY
ROBERT ORME	ALEXR. WYNCH
WILLIAM PERCEVAL	ROBERT PALK.

The following Letter from Capt Caillaud Read.

To THE HOÑBLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQR PRESIDENT & GOVERNOR &Co. GENTLEMEN OF THE COMMITTEE AT MADRAS.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs No. 24.

Since my last of the 3D Instant No. 23 I have been honor'd with three of your favors No. 23, 24 & 25.

In consequence of your Orders the Nellour Subedar march'd out yesterday in the afternoon, with a Detachment under his Command agreable to the inclos'd Returns. As the immediate Service of the Guns requir'd six Men, and the Quantity of Ammunition and Stores a careful Person to look after them, I have taken the liberty in case of Accidents to trespass a little on your Orders, by sending two Men more of the Artillery than you were pleased to direct; As also one Faulkner Private Centinel in Captain Callendar's Company an Armourer, and a tolerable Skilfull

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[9ms.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, APRIL 1756.*——

Assistant from the Hospital one Lisle, who has got some Medicines, and such Instruments as he can make use of. I hope this may meet with your approbation Gentlemen, and so plead my excuse for the freedom I have taken.

The President's Letters to the respective Country Powers with those I was Order'd to write were immediately Dispatch'd.

I have given written Instructions and Orders (to all the Serjeants of Sepoys, Coffrees and Artillery) to the best of my Judgment how to act in their different Spheres of Duty As also how to behave towards the Nellour in his Command; which I hope will prevent any Mistakes or misunderstandings amongst themselves or with him; The Nellour has promised to write very punctually; and I shall take the same care in communicating the Accounts he may send. The Disputes with the King of Travencore in that Country; I have strongly recommended to him if possible to get them adjusted.

The day before the Nellour's March came the Accounts of Mohofoz Cawn's Victory over the Pullitavre of which no doubt you are appriz'd as the Harcars had Letters for the Governor, and were immediately Dispatch'd. The Particulars of the Engagement are not yet come to hand. The General Accounts make the Victory very compleat. Moudemia certainly kill'd and two thousand Colleries; Three hundred Horse taken, All the Baggage, Guns and some Elephants, the Battle was fought within Seven Miles of Turnavelly.

Permit me to congratulate you on the late Success of his Majestys and the Company's Arms against Angria. I have the honor to be with great Respect, Honble Sir & Sirs Your most Obed$^{t.}$ & faithful Servant

Trichenopoly — JOHN CAILLAUD.
27th March 1756.

The Committee approve of the Regulations made by Captain Caillaud for the better conducting the Detachment under the Command of the Nelloor Subedar to Tinnevelly and observe with great pleasure the Confirmation of the News of Mohofoz Cawn's Victory over Moodamiah the Chief Fomenter of the Disturbances in that Country whose Death we hope will contribute to their Speedy End. See the Nabob's Account of this Victory in the Country Letters enter'd No. 79 & 84.

Other Letters from the Nabob as enter'd N$^{o.}$ 83 & 85 Read. In the first of which he desires that Captain Lee may be order'd to employ some of the Company's Sepoys who have nothing to do at Arcot, to Secure the Jagueers lately seiz'd from Murtaz ally Cawn, otherwise that his Amuldars will be obliged to enlist new Seapoys which will greatly increase the Expence. The President acquaints the Committee that upon Receipt of the said Letter, he wrote to Captain Lee to order him to employ as many of the Sepoys as could be spar'd in the manner the Nabob requests which the Committee approve—In the Letter N$^{o.}$ 85 the Nabob requests we will write to the Dutch to demand Payment of a large Sum of Money due to the Circar for the Rent of Sadras to the Year of Phasely 1165 (last year) he the Nabob having wrote Several times without Success. The Committee are unwilling to interfere publickly in this demand upon the Dutch for fear of giving Rise to any Differences with that Nation; They judge besides that a much more effectual way of getting Payment of the Money due to the Circar will be that the Nabob send a Party of twenty or thirty Horse under the Command of a discreet and prudent Officer to demand it with Directions in case Payment is refused to stop all Goods going into or coming out from the Place.

M$^{r.}$ De Leyrit's Letter dated 31st March last N$^{o.}$ 26 Read inclosing a Multitude of Papers consisting of Declarations &c$^{a.}$ by way of answer to the Pieces transmitted him with the President's Letters of the 12th 20th and 21st November last on the Subject of the Contested Districts, Order'd that Copies be sent to the Commissaries that they may make enquiry into their Authenticity.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, APRIL 1756.*—— [9mo]

The following Letter from Richard Starke Esq[r] read with Copy of the Orders given out by Colonel Adlercron the 1st Instant.

To the Honble the President and Governor
& the Gentlemen for conducting Country Affairs.

Honble Sir & Sirs

I have receiv'd your favor of the 31st Ultimo and to morrow will transmit you Copy of the Proceedings of the Court Martial held on Captain Schaub.

Colonel Adlercron having yesterday given out Orders to this Garrison of which the inclos'd is a Copy; I should be glad to know whether you would please to have the same complied with. I am with respect Honble Sir & Sirs Your most Obedient humble Servant

Fort S[t]. David
2[d] April 1756.

Richard Starke.

Copy.

Garrison Orders. April 1st 1756.

There having been in the Regulations for Salutes establish'd here a neglect shewn to his Majesty's Field Officers and a proper Distinction not having been made between those of his Majesty's and those of the Company's, the same Compliments having been paid to Lieutenant Colonel Lawrence as to Colonel Adlercron,

It is the Commander in Chiefs Order that the following Regulation for Salutes be henceforward duely observed.

The Commander in Chief of the Land Forces to be Saluted with the same number of Guns as the Admiral or Commander in Chief of the Fleet.

Lieutenant Colonel Bagshaw and Lieutenant Colonel Lawrence to be saluted with an equal number of Guns.

Major Lovet, Major Kilpatrick or the Major upon the Coast for the time being with an equal Number.

The Guards and Centinels to pay the same Compliments to Major Kilpatrick as to Major Loveit.

The Committee have no Objection to the Contents of the Orders publish'd by Colonel Adlercron although they do not perceive from whence he derives his Authority to regulate Salutes in the Garrisons of the East India Company.

Another Letter from M[r]. Starke Read inclosing Copy of the Proceedings of the General Court Martial held on Captain Schaub; Order'd that the said Proceedings be enter'd after these Minutes: The Paper deliver'd in by Capt[n]. Schaub to the Court of which a Translation is there enter'd seems to be a Digression contriv'd chiefly to prove his very great Respect to Colonel Adlercron and his very little Respect for the Deputy Governor. On this and the * Order of the 3[d] January rests his Defence. The Evil therefore which we apprehended from the Publication of that Order has already gain'd fast Root to the entire Ruin of all Military Subordination in the Company's Service. And although there is very little Reason to hope for a Remedy from Colonel Adlercron yet it is Resolv'd to make a further Representation to him on the Subject as we should think it our Duty to lay before him our Opinion wherever we See the Company's Good concern'd, were we even quite certain that he would pay no Regard to that Opinion.

Taken Notice of in these Minutes the 12 January.

A third Letter from M[r]. Starke read inclosing the General Account of Disbursements made by the Company on account of the Regiment from their Arrival to the last of February 1756 being Eighteen Months, amounting to Pagodas thirty four thousand, eight hundred Sixty one, fourteen fanams and forty five Cash (34861-14-45) together with Copies of the several Vouchers regarding those Disbursements

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[9TH] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, APRIL 1756.*——

Order'd that the said Account & Vouchers be enter'd in a Book apart; and as the Vouchers consist of a vast Number of little Demands made by several Different Officers & countersign'd or certified by nobody; It is Agreed to transmit to Colonel Adlercron a Copy of the General account with a Letter requesting him to examine it, and if he finds it right to certify the whole together.

Letter from Governor Vermont of Negapatam read in answer to the Complaint made to him the 16th March last on the Subject of the Village of Ariavetty, Setting forth that he is entirely ignorant of the Circumstances of the said Complaint, wherefore he has wrote to the Chief of Portonovo for Information.

The following Letters from Captn Lee read.

To the Hoñble George Pigot Esqr President and Governor &cA Gentlemen of the Committee at Fort St George.

Honble Sir & Sirs.

Yesterday I receiv'd from Narang three hundred twenty four and a half Pollipet Pagodas more, on account of Meer malongs money. He writes me it will take up some time to get in the remainder as the Grain sells very slowly; He has not yet receiv'd any Money from Bommerauze, neither has he been able to get the Sepoys their Batta, for which reason I order'd him to send in all those that were not immediately necessary for assisting in the disposal of the Grain.

Notwithstanding we had taken all the precautions possible to prevent a further Desertion in the Troops, on Friday night four of the Swiss went off; immediately I detach'd Sepoys on all the different Roads who are return'd without Success not being able to hear any thing of them; I have wrote to the Killedar of Veloor to claim them, as I imagine they cannot go to any other Place; I am with the greatest Respect Honble Sir & Sirs Your most Obliged and most Obedient humble Servant

Arcot
28th March 1756.

Willm Lee.

To the Hoñble George Pigot Esqr President & Governor &cA Gentlemen of the Committee at Fort St George.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

I have receiv'd the honor of your Letter of the 25th Instant, enclosing the Copy of one wrote by Bommerauze to the President, and yesterday receiv'd a Letter from Narang with 600 Pollipet Pagodas on account of the Money Mur malong was Security for; He has not yet been paid any Sums by Bommerauze, but is promised the whole he owes the Company shall be discharged in a few days, and I have received a Letter from him to the same Effect, tho' Narang is still apprehensive that he will evade it for some time longer; I have recall'd 2 Jemedars 2 Havaldars 2 Naigues and 51 Sepoys, the Party still out is very necessary to assist in the disposal of Care [*sic*] of the Grain I have also got part of their Batta, and am in hopes the Company will not be charged with any extraordinary Expences on that Account.

Mr Maunsel before he went for Trichenopoly settled with Fred. Williams, and paid him from the 1st January last in the manner you was pleased to direct.

The Nabob has desir'd that as Kieredy Cawn and his Family do not go to Trinomalee, I would order here Meer Saib's Company of Sepoys, as the Killedar has no occasion for them or money to pay them, and yesterday I receiv'd a Letter from the Subebar who desir'd I would speak to the Nabob, that from the time he went there (the 3d of last Month) he had not been pay'd for himself or Company one Rupee and hat his Men were in great distress; I have therefore consented the Nabob should send for them back on his promise that he will pay them to the time of their Arrival here.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, APRIL 1756.*—— [9rm]

Francis Baxter who says he was taken Prisoner at Elmiseram, and since enter'd into the French and Country Service, surrender'd himself the 29th Ultimo; and on the first at night 3 more of the Swiss deserted; Murtaz ally Cawn denies receiving any of them in Veloor, and by some Hircaras coming to this Place from Corrapow; I am inform'd of their seeing Europeans without Arms going that way.

Quarter Masters Godwin and Rumbold have given me the enclos'd Indents, many of the Articles in which, are much wanted in Camp; as soon therefore as I am honor'd with your answer, if you are pleased to give Orders they be complied with, I will send down Bullocks and proper Persons to bring them up.

On the 1st Instant was taken a General Muster of the Battalion, Train, Sepoys and Artificers which with the Monthly Returns of the Army I have enclos'd and am with the greatest Respect Hoñble Sir & Sirs Your most Obliged most Obedient & most humble Servant

Camp at Arcot
2d April 1756.

WILLIAM LEE.

The President acquaints the Committee that the Stores Indented for by Captain Lee with his Letter of the 2d April have already been sent away in part, and the rest wait for more Bullocks.

Captain Maskelyne writes from Arcot that he is inform'd Conna fringy died about five Weeks ago of the Wounds he receiv'd at Ouscotah, a Place lately in the Possession of the Mysoreans in whose Service he enter'd and was posted in the said Fort for it's Defence against the Nabob of Cudapah who attack'd and took it.

GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
AR. WYNCH.
WILLM PERCEVAL.
ROBT PALK.

At a General Court Martial composed of the Officers of his Majesty's Troops and of those in the Service of the East India Company, held at the Garden House near Fort St. David the Eighteenth day of March 1756, by Virtue of a Warrant from John Adlercron Esqr Colonel in his Majesty the King of Great Britain's Service, and Commander in Chief of the Troops of the English East India Company.

Present

MAJOR VERNEY LOVETT PRESIDENT

CAPT. FRANCIS FORDE	MEMBERS	CAPT. DAVID HEYBURNE
CAPT. THOMAS TOWNSEND		CAPT. ARCHIBALD GRANT
CAPT. HENRY WRAY		CAPT. WILLIAM HISLOP
CAPT. NICHOLAS WELLER		CAPT. EDWARD HUNT
CAPT. PAUL POLIER		CAPT. LEWIS D'ILLENS
CAPT. WILLIAM LIN		CAPT. LIEUT. ANTHONY WALSH.

Colonel Adlercron's Warrant to Major Verney Lovett empowering him to sit as President was Read, as was also the Colonel's Warrant; constituting Lieut. John Carnac Judge Advocate on the Coast of Choromandel. The President, Members and Judge Advocate being then duly sworn, a Letter was laid before the Court from Richard Starke Esqr. Deputy Governor of Fort St. David to Colonel Adlercron Commander in Chief as follows.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, APRIL 1756.*——

Sir

"Having acquainted you of Capn. Schaub's going to Pondichery without ever "asking my Permission which I look upon as the greatest Insult as well as breach "of Orders; I am to desire you will bring him to a Court Martial on that Account; "I have order'd Captain Pascal as my Commandant to prosecute for me."

I have the honor to be &ca.

Fort St. David
21st. January 1756.

RICHD STARKE.

A fresh Charge was then produced to the Court, a Copy of which had been sent to Captain Schaub the 16 Instant and was as follows.

"Articles of Complaint exhibited by Richard Starke Esqr. Deputy Governor "of Fort St. David against Capn. Schaub".

"1st. Disrespect & Neglect of Duty.

"For going to Pondichery without having first made Application and obtain'd "the Liberty of him the Deputy Governor."

"2d. Neglect of Duty

"For not duely reporting to him the Deputy Governor or to the Commandant of "Fort St. David the Desertion of ten Swiss Soldiers under his Command."

Henry Schaub Esqr. Captain of a Swiss Company in the Service of the English East India Company and Commandant at Cuddalore was ask'd by the Court whether he was ready and willing to be tried by them, to which he answer'd that he was very willing to Submit his Cause to this Court, but desir'd no Precedent might be drawn from thence in regard to the Swiss for the future; He then observ'd to the Court that he apprehended he ought only to be tried upon the Charge as contain'd in the Deputy Governors Letter in consequence of which he was put in arrest, and not upon the two Articles exhibited against him after his being in Confinement.

The Court being clear'd to Debate on this Matter, were of Opinion that Captain Schaub might be tried upon the said two Articles of Complaint, and being again opend proceeded to the Trial of the said Captain Henry Schaub accordingly.

Richard Starke Esqr., Deputy Governor of Fort St. David being duely sworn; Deposeth that on or about the thirteenth day of January 1756; he received Information from the Bound Peons, that Captain Schaub was gone out of the Bounds, at which he was much Surpriz'd, as Captain Schaub had not applied to him for leave and therefore wrote to Colonel Adlercron, desiring he might be put in Arrest and tried for the same.

With respect to the Second Article of the Charge The Deponent informs the Court, that Captain Pascal Commandant at Fort St. David acquainted him with the Desertion of ten Swiss Soldiers from Cuddalore in the Evening of the third of January 1756; and Captain Pascal at the same time told him that he himself had had no report thereof from Captain Schaub till near one O' Clock in the Afternoon of the same day.

Captain Edmund Pascal in the Service of the East India Company, and Commandant at Fort St. David being duly sworn, Deposeth that on the third day of January 1756 between twelve and one in the Afternoon Captain Schaub call'd upon him and inform'd him of the Desertion of ten Swiss Soldiers the preceding Night, and having ask'd Captain Schaub, whether he had sent any Sepoys after them he replied he had not, as there were too few at Cuddalore to allow of any being detach'd from thence.

The Evidence against the Prisoner being closed Captain Henry Schaub was call'd upon to make his Defence. Not being able to express himself in English, he deliver'd in his Defence in writing, which was allowed of, and being in French it was translated as follows.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, APRIL 1756.*—— [9TH.]

Answer to the first Article Viz., Disrespect and Neglect of Duty, for going to Pondichery without having first made application, and obtain'd the Liberty of him the Deputy Governor

The Prisoner begs the Court would take Notice of the Order given by the Commander in Chief of the 3d of January 1756, and flatters himself they will be of Opinion, that he was under no Obligation of applying for leave to go to Pondichery to any other Person but Colonel Adlercron the Commander in Chief; He made such application and obtain'd his Permission accordingly.

The Prisoner further begs the Court would take into Consideration the behaviour of Mr. Starke upon this Occasion. He did not think himself sufficiently Authorized to order himself Captain Schaub in Arrest & therefore applied to Colonel Adlercron for that purpose which was acknowledging that Gentleman as Commander in Chief, and consequently as the only Person to whom Application was to be made in Affairs regarding the Military. If therefore Mr. Starke was, as it appears from his Behaviour, of that Opinion how can he require of the Prisoner to think otherwise. The Prisoner had moreover the Examples of Captain Forbes and Captain Campbell who had been very near bringing themselves into a Scrape for being of Opinion that they were under the necessity of obeying the Deputy Governor, preferably to Colonel Adlercron, Commander in Chief.

The Prisoner assures the Court upon his honor [that] he never meant to fail in point of regard to Mr. Starke the [Deputy] Governor; and had not the Scheme of his going to [Pondich]erry in Company with Major Lovett, Captain Hislop [and Lieu]tenant Carnac been very sudden, he would not have [omitted] tho' he did not think himself under any necessity of so doing, as he had the Commander in Chief's leave waiting [upon] Mr. Starke, and asking his Commands there; and as a proof of what he has advanced, the moment he heard Mr. Starke was offended, he set out from Pondicherry for Cuddalore, where being arrived he went the next Morning to the Deputy Governor's; but had the misfortune of being refused to see him; The Prisoner however so great was his desire to justifie himself return'd there again in the Afternoon, and made an Apology which the Deputy Governor would not accept of the Prisoner then thought it his Duty to write to Governor Pigot to justifie himself, and to prevent any ill impressions being entertain'd against him on that account.

Finally as the Prisoner flatters himself he has not fail'd either in Point of Respect or Duty, he prays the Court would be pleased to consider how long he has been deprived of his Liberty, to the Detriment of his [...] as of his health which has suffered from the [...] Affair has occasion'd to him, and still occasions, as [...] upon him the displeasure of the Presidency He [...] to the Consideration of the Court whether there [...] Grounds for the confinement which he has so long [...] and if not whether the Behaviour of his Prosecutor in this [...] has not been unjust, oppressive and contrary to the Laws and constitution of Great Britain.

The Deputy Governor being asked whether he had any thing to say in answer to the first part of Captain Schaub's Defence, replied, that he looked upon it as Capt Schaub's Duty to demand his Permission to quit the Bounds; and that the Colonel Adlercron had acquainted him the [...] by a written Message, that he made no doubt [...] had the Governor's Consent before he applied [...] Pondicherry: from whence Mr. Starke conclude [...] deem'd it Captain Schaub's duty to do so.

Answer to the Second Articles [...] of Duty for not duly reporting to him the D[eputy Governor] or to the Commandant of Fort St. David [the Desersion of] ten Swiss Soldiers under his Command.

The Prisoner informs the Cour[t] that the reason of his delaying a few hours before he re[ported to Colonel] Adlercron and the Commandant at Fort St. David the Desertion of the ten Swiss of his Company was in order to be first certain of the Number of the Deserters, and [that as soon] as he was fully satisfied in that Particular he

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wanted to Captain Pascal at dinner, and made him the report, and after dinner did the same to Colonel Adlercron. The Prisoner begs leave further to observe to the Court that he has never known it the Practice in Europe to make any Report of Soldiers being deserted or absent 'till after Roll calling, and that very often a Night was allowed to intervene between the absence of any Man and the Report.

The Court adjourn'd till tomorrow morning Eight O'Clock.

March nineteenth 1756.

At the time appointed for the Meeting of the Court, Captain Lewis D' Illens one of the Members thereof having sent word he was not able to attend, Lieutenant Stephen Monchanin in the Service of the East India Company was order'd by the Commander in Chief to sit in his Room, the said Lieut^t. Stephen Monchanin being then duly Sworn, and the proceedings of yesterday read to him; the Court proceeded as follows.

George Nicola Serjeant in Captain Schaub's Company being duely sworn, Deposeth (as was Interpreted by Capt. Paul Polier a Member of the Court) that at Six o'Clock in the Evening of the 2^d. of January 1756, he call'd the Roll of Captn. Schaub's Company, and that they were all then present; but that about Six the next morning he made a Report to Capt. Schaub that ten of his Men were absent.

Godfrey Miller Serjeant likewise in Capt. Schaub's Company being duly sworn, deposeth that at four O'Clock in the morning of the third of January 1756 he miss'd three Men from his Guard of which he soon after made a Report to Captain Schaub.

The Prisoner being ask'd by the Court if he had any thing further to say in his Defence replied that upon [the] first report he receiv'd he did not apprehend the Men were deserted, so gave Orders to have them immediately search'd for.

The Order of the 3^d. January 1756 to which the Prisoner refers in his Defence is as follows.

"As Fort S^t. David and Cuddalore are two distinct Garrisions, the Officers, Commanding at either of those Places have no Authority one over the other, and are to receive no Orders but from the Commander in Chief."

"The Deputy Governor is to give out the Parole for the Fort only; Tevenepatam, Cuddalore and all the Guards within the Bounds, are to send a non Commission'd Officer to the Garden house every Evening before Retreat beating in order to receive it."

The Evidence for and against the Prisoner being clos'd, the Court order'd every body to withdraw.

The Court then took the Matter of the wh[ole] Proceedings before them into Consideration; they acquit the Prisoner Captain Henry Schaub of the Neglect of Duty [with] which he is charged in the first Article of Complaint; and him guilty of Disrespect only, but deem the Submission he [has] actually made to the Deputy Governor and the long confinement he has labour'd under as more than Sufficient for the Crime of which he is found Guilty.

As to the second Article of Complaint. The Court unanimously acquit the said Captain Henry Schaub.

(Sign'd) VERNEY LOVETT.
Major
President.

JN^O. CARNAC
Advocate General and
Judge Martial.

Garden House near Fort S^t. David 19th. March 1756.

I approve. JN^O. ADLERCRON, Colonel in his Britannick Majesty's Service, and Commander in Chief of the Troops of the English East India Company.

A true Copy

JN^O. CARNAC
Advocate General & Judge Martial.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, APRIL 1756.*—— [10TH.]

Sent the following Letters to Richard Starke Esqr. Captain John Caillaud and Captain William Lee, in answer to those read last Committee.

To RICHARD STARKE ESQ^R.

Sir

We have receiv'd your Letters dated the 2^d, 4th. & 6th. Instant, with the Copy of the proceedings of the General Court Martial and the General Account of Disbursements on account of the Regiment with Copies of the Vouchers. You will continue to send us the said Account & Vouchers monthly.

When any of your Merchants complain of Grain or other Goods stopp'd, let them acquaint you with the particular Quantity and the Place where it is stopp'd; and do you then give him your Passport to which M^r. Leyrit cannot refuse to pay a Proper Respect.

We have no Objection to the Orders publish'd by Colonel Adlercron. Inclos'd is a Letter for him which after perusing you are to deliver to him, We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants GEORGE PIGOT—STRINGER LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY—ROB^T. ORME—ALEXANDER WYNCH—WILLIAM PERCEVAL—ROBT. PALK.

Fort S^t. George
10th April 1756.

To CAPTAIN JOHN CAILLAUD.

Sir No. 27.

We have receiv'd your Letter of the 27th. March. The Regulations you made for the well conducting the Expedition under the Command of the Nellour Subedar are very proper & agreable to us.

The Order on the Subject of Discharges was meant only for Europeans; As to Topasses you have Liberty to do with them at all times as you may find for the Good of the Service.

Inclos'd is a Letter for the Nellour Subedar which must be forwarded to him by the first Opportunity. We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants

Fort S^t. George — GEORGE PIGOT &C^A. COMMITTEE.
10th April 1756.

To CAPTAIN WILLIAM LEE.

Sir

We have receiv'd your Letters dated 21st. March and 2^d. April: A great Part of the Stores indented for have already been sent away, the rest wait for more Bullocks.

We are glad to find the Money for which Meer malon is Security comes in, and we hope Bommerauze will pay the Amount of his Cadjan Note without further Trouble.

We approve your recalling the Sepoys from Trinomalee, and are Sir Your most Obedient Servants

Fort S^t. George — GEORGE PIGOT &C^A. COMMITTEE.
10th April 1756.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, APRIL 1756.*——

FRIDAY THE 13TH. AT A COMMITTEE

Present

GEORGE PIGOT ESQR	GOVERNOR PRESIDENT
STRINGER LAWRENCE	HENRY POWNEY
ROBERT ORME	ALEXANDER WYNCH
WILLIAM PERCEVAL	ROBERT PALK.

The President lays before the Committee the following Letters which he just now receiv'd from Mr. Starke.

TO THE HOÑBLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQR.

Hoñble Sir

Yesterday a Ship arrived at Pondichery that left France the 6th. September last. She brings Advice that there was great appearance of War between England & France and that another French Ship may daily be expected at Pondichery. I am with Respect, Honorable Sir, Your most Obedient humble Servant

Fort St. David
10th. April 1756.

RICHARD STARKE.

TO THE HOÑBLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQR.

Hoñble Sir

Colonel Adlercron has this moment acquainted me; That Colonel Bagshaw tells him a Secret Letter is arrived that says a War is actually declared between England and France; As that is the Case I should be glad to know what Quantity and sort of Provisions you judge necessary to be laid up in the Fort; I am with Respect Hoñble Sir Your most Obedient humble Servant

Fort St. David
10th. April 1756.

RICHARD STARKE.

The President further acquaints the Committee that by some Private Advices brought out by the French Ship he learns that Hostilities had been committed between the two Nations at Sea. Therefore whether a War was actually declared at the time of her Departure or not there is so great a Probability of our receiving very soon the News of a Rupture that we cannot be too alert in putting our Several Garrisons upon their Guard against a Surprize, and in making the necessary Preparations for their good Defence. Agreed accordingly.

That Directions be sent to the Deputy Governor and Council of Fort St. David, and to the Chief of Devecotah to purchase all the Grain that may be offer'd for Sale and lay it in Store for the Garrisons, to cause Strict Examination to be made of the Military Stores and acquaint us what Supplies are wanting, Major Kilpatrick and Engineer Call to assist on this Examination at Fort St. David, and at Devecotah Such Officers as are there.

That the Deputy Governor and Council of Fort St. David be further directed to call upon the Engineer for a Plan of the Fort, and Outworks with Directions for the use of the Mines, which Plan and Directions are to be lodged in the Cash Chest and Captain D'Illens of the Train to be made acquainted with them that in case of an Accident to Mr. Call the Fort may not be unprovided with a Person instructed in it's Defences.

That two Companies of Military be drawn from the Garrison of Trichenopoly (where will still remain a sufficient Number for it's Defence) to Devecotah, there to

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, APRIL 1756.*—— [18th.]

wait for further Orders in readiness to move at a moment's warning either to join the Regiment at Fort St. David or upon such other Service as Circumstances may require.

That Colonel Adlercron be acquainted with this Movement and desir'd to consult with Major Kilpatrick, who has been long experienced in the Wars of this Country, concerning the Number of Tumbrils, Stores &c^a., convenient for the Regiment to carry into the Field.

That a Letter be wrote to Admiral Watson advising of the Intelligence we have received in order that he may be enabled to form a Judgement what Station will be properest for his Majesty's Squadron, that one Copy of the Letter be lodged at Fort St. David, one at Devecotah and one at Nagore to be sent off as soon as the Ships shall appear in Sight.

That cautionary Letters directed to the Commander of any English Ship or Vessel advising him to avoid Pondichery be sent also to Fort St. David, Devecotah and Nagore to be lodg'd in Several Copies off those Places upon Cattamarans so Station'd that every Vessel that passes may if possible have a Sight of one.

That a Letter for Colonel Clive be lodged at Fort St. David directing him to land any Military that may have been sent with him from Bombay in order that they be in readiness to join the Regiment.

That the Select Committee of Bombay be advised of the Intelligence we have receiv'd.

And that a General Caution be immediately dispatch'd to Arcot, Changleput, Trichenopoly and the Commissaries at Maderantegum, that they may be on their Guard.

The two following Letters from Captain Lee read.

To the Hoñ'ble George Pigot Esqr. President & Governor &c^a.
Gentlemen of the Committee of Correspondence at Fort St. George.

Hoñ'ble Sir & Sirs,

I have received the honor of your Letter of the 1st. Instant; with your Approbation of the Sentence passed on Shaick Meen Subedar, who I have acquainted with it and dismiss'd him the Company's Service, He proposes as he tells me to return to his own Country, and engage in some of the Pollygars Service who are his Friends.

By the Letters I receive from Narang I fear Bommerauze endeavors to evade as long as he can the performance of his Agreement; Tho' I am told He is in treaty with the Soucars here for raising ready Money and will give such Security as I hope will induce them to advance it to the Company; In the whole I have received two thousand Six hundred and twenty four and a half Pollipet Pagodas which has been entirely paid by the Sale of the Grain.

Yesterday one of the Swiss who Deserted the 1st. Instant, was retaken and brought in by some of the Country People, I have sent him into the Fort & desired he might be confin'd with the others; I am with the greatest Respect Hoñble Sir & Sirs, Your most Obliged most Obedient and most humble Servant

Arcot
Apr^l. 6, 1756. William Lee.

To the Hoñble George Pigot Esqr. President & Governor &c^a.
Gentlemen of the Committee of Correspondence at Fort St. George.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

Yesterday the Nabob shewed me a Letter he had just received from you, mentioning to have sent Me Instructions for furnishing Him with a Sepoy Force to assist his own Troops in keeping possession of the Districts and Jagueers taken from Murtaz ally Cawn; and at the same time told me the day before 200 of his Sepoys and 100 Horse had been attack'd by the Veloor People near Coupang a mud Fort of

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the Nabob's about 10 Corse from hence on the Trinomalee Road; and had been oblig'd by Superiority of numbers to retreat to that Place where Murtaz ally's People had pursued them, and were preparing to reduce it; tho I have not yet had the honor of receiving those Orders, as the Nabob was of Opinion that any Delay would be attended with bad consequences to his Affairs, I have by his desire sent 150 Sepoys with 100 of his own Horse to reinforce Coupang. I have given the Subedar Orders not to fire on the Veloor Sepoys without they attack'd the Place, and by no means to march out of the Fort, the Intention of his going there being only to keep possession of it. I thought this the most prudent way till I was honor'd with your further Instructions; There has been several Skirmishes lately between the Nabob's and Veloor Sepoys, and the former has been obliged to retreat from a Fort call'd Vancatompet which they had been some days endeavouring to reduce and had a four Pounder with them from Trinomalee; This I have only heard from my Hircaras; the Nabob having never before yesterday applied for any assistance or told me what he intended against the Districts in Possession of Murtaz ally Cawn.

On the 8 in the night two of the Grenadier Company deserted, and I am inform'd were seen going into Veloor, I will make application to the Killedar for them, but I fear to no purpose, as he has all along denied receiving any of our Men.

I have received more from Narang 730 Polipet Pagodas, and Bommerauze has sent a Vackeel who promises that in a very few days he will discharge the whole Debt. I am with the greatest Respect, Honble Sir & Sirs, Your most Obliged most Obedient and most humble Servant

Arcot
10 April 1756. WILLIAM LEE.

The Nabob by sending for a Gun from Trinomelee and attacking the Fort of Vencatumpet in the Possession of Murtaz ally Cawn has exceeded our Intentions which were only to Secure the Jagueers before Seized and hold them untill he Murtaz ally Cawn, Shall find it is his Interest to offer us Such Terms as may be accepted. Agreed to write the Nabob that this is our Advice and that by attacking Forts with his own Troops he Subjects them to be repuls'd and raises a Disturbance for no good.

The President acquaints the Committee that there having been a great Desertion of Swiss from the Troops at Arcot in the last Month, and five or Six being taken and confin'd at that Place he has order'd them to be Sent to Fort St David with the proper Evidences and desired Colonel Adlercron to take Such Measures as he sees proper to bring them to their Trial, representing to him that an Example is absolutely necessary. Which the Committee approve.

The following Letter from Captn Caillaud Read.

To THE HONORABLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQR PRESIDENT & GOVERNOR &CA
GENTLEMEN OF THE COMMITTEE AT MADRAS.

No. 25. Honble Sir & Sirs

Since my last, dated March the 27th I have been honor'd with one from you of the same Date N° 26.

The Nellour took with him a Vackeel belonging to Catabominaigue's Security, In order to settle the Affair with his Master, and also a promise from me that as soon as I was inform'd of Bills being given for the Money that the Security should be set at Liberty.

Mahofoz Cawn's Seasonable Victory, has saved Madura for this time I believe, and it is to be hop'd the Success well pursued will Secure it in future; The Nellour has been join'd on his March by some of Tondiman's Coleries and almost all the other Pollygars have sent their Vackeels to meet him on the Road with proffers of

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, APRIL 1756.*—— [13TH]

friendship and assistance, As to the King of Tanjore, and Monogee their Declaration to Saib Mucktoom on the Occasion; That since the Nabob did not think proper to oblige them in their just Demands on Corahnelly, and that the English had even threatened to fight with them if they offer'd to Act against Tondiman; They could see no reason (untill they were Satisfied in what was their Right) to be concern'd in either his or our Business or to lend either of us any assistance.

There came in the other Day from Tanjour a Deserter; formerly a Serjeant in the Bombay Detachment, who left them at Cuddalore the first of May last; He is confin'd untill I can receive your Orders about him.

I have made the Leather Coverings for the Men's Arms, and according to your Orders Shall let them know that they are answerable for them; I will defer issuing them out yet untill I know whether you would think it proper at the Same time to fix a price on Bayonets, Slings, Cartouch Boxes, Pickers and Worms; and by a General Order inform the Men, that for the future if any of those Articles are lost or wilfully spoiled by them; They must make them good by a stoppage out of their Pay, I believe it might Save some Expence, and make them more careful.

On a representation of Doctor Wilson's that a change of Air might be of Service to Lieutenant Greig, I have given him leave to go down to Fort St David. Ensign Clarke who went down, as I had the honor to inform you On the same account is now come up again.

Inclos'd are the Monthly accounts & Returns of the Garrison. I have the honor to be with the greatest Respect Hoñble Sir & Sirs Your most Obedient and faithful Servant

Trichenopoly
April 2d. 1756.

JNO. CAILLAUD.

P.S.—Serjeant Major Robinson, who was appointed as such to the Sepoys, an hour before the Nellour's March, was struck with a convulsive fit & died of it two days after in the Fort, A Man of merit and worth in his Station.

Order'd that the Serjeant, Deserter return'd from Tanjour to Trichenopoly be put on Duty as a Private Man, that a Price be fix'd agreable to Captain Caillaud's Representation on all Military Accoutrements, and an Order made to Stop the said Price by proper Proportions out of the Pay of every Soldier or Sepoy who Shall wilfully or carelessly lose or Spoil any of his Accoutrements, that the Price be considerably above the Prime Cost of each Article to prevent their being sold for more than the Stoppage—And that Copy of this Order be sent to all the Garrisons to be added to the General Regulations.

Two English Deserters who return'd lately from Pondichery brought with them a Passport of which the following is a Translation.

"We the underwritten Knight of the Royal & Military Order of St Louis, "Lieutenant Colonel of Dragoons, Major General, and Commandant of the Troops "in India certify to all those whom it may concern that We have given to John "Nugent and Banjamin Bulhock two Englishmen Permission to go where they "please; In Witness whereof we have deliver'd him the Present to be valid and of "use to them on Occasions. Done at Pondichery the 14th March 1756.

(Sign'd) DAUTEUIL.

(A Seal)

Benjamin Bulhock deserted the 2d Novemr last from our Troops at Arcot, he should therefore have been return'd conformably to the Articles of the Cartel of which the above Passport is a direct Breach; Agreed therefore to make Complaint on this Subject to Mr De Leyrit to point out to him by some Instances how different

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[13TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, APRIL 1756.*——

our Conduct has been, and to represente to him that it is by virtue of such Passports that Conna fringy and other Petty Officers from their Service, getting together Small Bodies of Banditti, overun the Country and plunder it; and when Complaint is made to the Chief of their Nation he returns for answer that they are not in his Service. See the President's Letter N°. 74 in the French Correspondence 1755, and Mr. De Leyrit's answer N°. 76 on the Subject of Conna Fringy.

The President acquaints the Committee that he lately received a Bill from Hamedally Cawn Renter of Condaporum and Ponna for four thousand (4000) Arcot Rupees in part of his Proportion of the Eight Lack assign'd by the Nabob to the Company out of the Arcot Country the half of which Assignment is due the 1st. of next Month, Particulars enter'd in the Minutes of Committee the 8th. October last. And that the said Bill has been duely Discharged Order'd that Report be made to the President and Council that they may give Directions for the Disposal of the Money.

And it having been necessary on different Occasions to make small Presents to the King of Tanjour amounting all together as ℔ List enter'd hereafter to Pagodas One hundred Seventy five (175).

The Commissary is Order'd to Discharge the same.

GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
AR. WYNCH.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.
ROBT. PALK.

List of Presents made to the King of Tanjour

A Gold Snuff Box		125
A Pair of Pistolls		50
Pagodas ...		175

Pursuant to the foregoing Resolutions.

Dispatch'd a Letter from the President to Mr. De Leyrit of this Date as enter'd in the French Correspondence N°. 27.

Also a Letter of this Date to Colonel Adlercron as enter'd in the Correspondence with him N°. 27 and the following Letters to Admiral Watson, Coll. Clive. The Deputy Governor & Council of Fort St. David, Major Kilpatrick, Mr. Drake at Deve Cotah, Captain Caillaud and Captain Lee.

To CHARLES WATSON ESQR REAR ADMIRAL OF THE RED,
& COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF HIS MAJESTY'S SQUADRON
IN THE EAST INDIES.

Sir

By a Ship which left France the 6th. Septemr. and arriv'd the 9 Instant at Pondichery we have received various Reports of the Situation of Affairs between Great Britain and France. Some say that War was actually Declared, others not; It is however certain that Hostilities had commenced at Sea, and that the French King had recall'd his Ambassador from London, and they give out themselves that we had taken two of their Sixty Gun Ships. This Sir is all the Intelligence that has reach'd us and which we endeavor to communicate to You without delay by lodging Copies of this Letter at the Several Southward Ports in order that you may be enabled to judge which is the properest Station for his Majesty's Squadron.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, APRIL 1756.*—— [14TH.]

We congratulate you Sir most Sincerely on your Success against Gheria, Nothing remarkable has happen'd on this Coast since your Departure, our Disputes with the French have run high but have not been carried to Hostilities. We have the Honor to be very perfectly Sir Your most Obedient humble Servants GEORGE PIGOT—STRINGER LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY—ROBERT ORME—ALEXR. WYNCH—WILLIAM PERCEVAL—ROBERT PALK.

Fort St. George
14th April 1756.

To ROBERT CLIVE ESQR.

Sir

By a Ship which left France the 6th. Septr. and arriv'd the 9th. Instant at Pondichery we are inform'd that Hostilities had begun between Great Britain and France, & it is a Doubt even whether War was not actually Declared we think therefore if you have brought any Military round from Bombay it would be best to land them at Fort St. David in order that they may join the King's Regiment. We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants

Fort St. George
14th April 1756. GEORGE PIGOT &CA. COMMITTEE.

To RICHARD STARKE ESQR. DEPUTY GOVERNOR
&CA. COUNCIL OF FORT ST. DAVID.

Gentlemen

Upon the News communicated by the Deputy Governor to the President of the great Likelihood of a War between England and France we think it necessary that you provide without loss of Time for the Security of the Fort against the Attack of an Enemy—For this purpose We direct that you buy up all the Grain you can and lodge as much in the Fort as Mr. Engineer Call shall acquaint You can conveniently be stow'd away. The Elizabeth's Rice Cargo you have already been directed to purchase, and the Ship Norwood will bring a further Quantity which you will also Secure. You must lay in a Sufficiency of Firewood and call upon the Respective Officers for an Account of the Quantity of Powder, Shot and all Sorts of Military Stores in the Garrison with a Description of the Condition they are in. We have desired Major Kilpatrick to accompany Mr. Call in a General Review of the Situation of the Fort as to Defence, and jointly to give you their Opinion what further Supplies of Stores will be requisite, which Opinion you are to transmit to us.

It is absolutely necessary that a General Plan of the Fort and Outworks should be lodged in the Company's Cash Chest, together with a Discription of the Mines, and full Directions for the use of them; If therefore you are not already Possess'd of such a Plan and Directions you are to Order Mr. Call to furnish you as Speedily as possible, and also to make Captain D'Illens acquainted with the Situation & use of the Mines, that in case of an Accident you may not be unprovided.

We have order'd two Companies to march from Trichenopoly to Deve Cotah where they are to wait for further Directions, but to be in readiness to move at a moments warning Endeavor to procure a good Account of the French Force at Chellumbrum, and advise us; that in case it should be necessary for these Men to come from Deve Cotah to Fort St. David we may be enabled to judge whether it is most prudent to send them by Land or Sea.

Inclos'd is a Letter for Admiral Watson which must be Sent off to him as soon as the Ship appears in sight with a Letter from yourself also acquainting him what Ships are in Pondichery Road & of any other Intelligence you may have received. We forward likewise a Caution directed to the Commander of any English Ship or

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[14TH.] ——— *FORT ST. GEORGE, APRIL 1756.* ———

Vessel of which You are to make several Copies and station Cattamarans with them off the Road so that every Vessel that appears may have a Sight of one. We are Gentlemen Your most Obedient Servants GEORGE PIGOT—STRINGER LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY—ROBT. ORME—ALEXR WYNCH—WILLM. PERCEVAL—ROBT. PALK.

Fort St George
the 14 April 1756.

P.S.—The accompanying Letter to Col Clive you will deliver on his Arrival at St David.

To MAJOR JAMES KILPATRICK.

Sir

Upon the Advice receiv'd by the French Ship lately arriv'd from Europe we have order'd the State of the Several Garrisons to be look'd into that they may be prepar'd for Defence. Your Presence at Fort St David may be useful to us in this Particular; we desire that you will together with Mr. Call take a Review of the Fortifications of the Place, and of the Quantity and Condition of the Stores and give your Opinion to the Deputy Governor and Council what further Assistance and Supplies may be necessary for it's Defence.

We have recommended to Colonel Adlercron to consult with you concerning the Number of Carriages, Tumbrils and Stores necessary for the Regiment to take into the Field. You will satisfy his Enquiries to the best of your Judgement. We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants

Fort St George.
14 April 1756. GEORGE PIGOT &CA COMMITTEE.

To MR DAWSONNE DRAKE; AT DEVE COTAH.

Sir

By a French Ship lately arrived at Pondichery we have receiv'd such Intelligence as gives us room to apprehend either that War was actually declar'd between Great Britain and France or on the Point of it. Certain it is that open Hostilities had pass'd between the two Nations, we therefore give you this Notice that you may be upon your Guard and put the Fort without loss of time into the best Situation of Defence possible. Acquaint us what Quantity of Provisions and Stores are in the Place and after consulting with the Officers let us know what Supplies you judge will be wanting Whatever Paddy may be offer'd for Sale, Purchase on the Company's Account and lodge it in the Fort in heaps after the manner of the Banksalls.

We have order'd two Companies from Trichenopoly to march to Devecotah, where they are to wait for further Directions in readiness to move at a moment's warning.

Inclos'd is a Letter for Admiral Watson which must be sent off to him as soon as the Ship appears in Sight We forward also a Caution directed to the Commander of any English Ship or Vessel, of which you are to make several Copies and Station Cattamarans with them off the Road so that every Vessel that appears may have a Sight of one. We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants GEORGE PIGOT—STRINGER LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY——ROBT. ORME——ALEXANDER WYNCH——WILLIAM PERCEVAL—ROBT. PALK.

Fort St George
14th April 1756.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, APRIL 1756.*—— [14TH.]

To CAPTAIN JOHN CAILLAUD.

No. 28.

Sir

We have received your Letter N°. 25 with the Monthly Papers inclos'd.

By a French Ship arriv'd the 9th at Pondichery from Europe we are inform'd that Hostilities had begun between Great Britain and France, and it is a doubt even whether War was not actually Declar'd, we give you therefore this Notice that you may be upon your Guard.

As it is necessary for us to be prepar'd with a Sufficient Number of Men to oppose the French if they should take the Field in one Body, we have resolv'd to draw two Companies from your Garrison nearer this way. You are accordingly to give Orders to Captain Callender to march with his own Company and Major Kilpatrick's through the Tanjore Country to Deve Cotah and there to remain in Garrison till further Directions. We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants

Fort St George
14th April 1756. GEORGE PIGOT &CA. COMMITTEE.

To CAPTAIN WILLIAM LEE.

Sir

We have receiv'd your Letters dated the 6th & 10th Instant. Our Intention in granting the Nabobs Request for Companies Sepoys was only to secure the Jagueers that had been taken from Murtaz ally Cawn, not to attack Forts & raise Disturbances, We by no means approve of his Conduct in this respect and have desir'd him to desist.

By a French Ship arrived the 9th at Pondichery from Europe we are inform'd that Hostilities had begun between Great Britain and France, and it is a Doubt even whether War was not actually Declared. We give you therefore this Notice that you may be upon your Guard. We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants

Fort St George
14TH April 1756. GEORGE PIGOT &CA. COMMITTEE.

Dispatch'd likewise Letters to Captain Polier Commanding at Changleput, and Captain Maskelyne, Commanding at Arcot advising of the Danger of a French War and a Letter directed to the Commander of any English Ship or Vessel, in three Copies to Fort St. David, Devecotah and Nagore advising them to avoid Pondichery.

Receiv'd a Letter from Colonel Adlercron dated 14th Instant as enter'd N°. 28. 17TH.

Receiv'd another Letter from Colonel Adlercron dated 17th Inst. as enter'd N°. 29. 20.

Dispatch'd to Colonel Adlercron a Letter of this Date Enter'd N°. 30 with a General Account of Disbursements pursuant to Resolution of Committee the 9th Instant.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

GEORGE PIGOT ESQR. GOVERNOR PRESIDENT
STRINGER LAWRENCE HENRY POWNEY
ROBERT ORME ALEXANDER WYNCH
WILLIAM PERCEVAL ROBERT PALK.

TUESDAY 20TH APRIL.

Letters from Colonel Adlercron N°. 28 and 29 Read.

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[20TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, APRIL 1756.*——

N°. 28 dated the 14th Instant is an answer to our Representation of the 10th on the Subject of the Order of the 3d January, giving us to understand in few but plain words that he will by no means revoke that Order.

In N°. 29 dated the 17th Speaking of the News from Pondichery he says he doubts it will be Some time before the Regiment will be able to take the Field as the Number of Bullocks ready is far short of what will be wanting and no Provisions have been Secur'd for the Troops. That he should be very desirous of coming to Madras in order to concert with us a Plan of Military Operations, but that he fears he might be cut off from the Troops.—That the late intolerable Desertion among the Swiss requiring a Severe and Speedy Example, he will allow the Swiss Deserters to be tried for the present by their own Laws and Forms agreable to the Directions Sent us by the Company and that Captain Schaub will proceed accordingly to the Trial of the Swiss Deserters expected from Arcot if we have no Objection.

In answer to the first of the above Letters it is needless to say any thing as Colonel Adlercron there declares his fix'd Resolution that the Order of the 3d January Shall stand in force To the Second we are assur'd by Mr. Starke that the Bullocks belonging to the Inhabitants may be got together again at a very Short warning; it is best therefore to save the Expence of maintaining them untill there shall be a certain Occasion—As to the Article of Provisions it is impossible for any Troops to carry a Store into the Field with them for more than ten or twelve Days, it would besides be an unnecessary Burthen and Charge as Supplies are continually to be got from the Buzzars which follow the Camp and are Stor'd from the different Countries through which they pass; In this manner our Armies have hitherto march'd and not been at a loss for Provisions. Agreed to explain the above Article to Colonel Adlercron and further to write him that if it be agreable to him we imagine there can be no danger in his coming to Madras at this time, and in case the News of War should arrive while he is here he may put himself at the head of the Company's Troops and join his own Regiment.

The Committee have no objection to Captain Schaub's proceeding to the Tryal of the Swiss Deserters and as Captain Polier has a Man under Confinement at Changleput for the same Crime It is Agreed to advise Colonel Adlercron that he may if he thinks proper empower Captain Polier to hold a Court Martial there.

And as the Committee of Accounts find it necessary to make some Enquiry of Captain Schaub personally concerning the Accounts of his Detachment while at Pondichery. It is Agreed to request of Colonel Adlercron to order him up as soon as the Court Martial to be held on the Swiss Deserters Shall be finish'd.

Two Letters from Messrs Gauppe & Bañatyne Commissaries at Madarantegum dated the 13th & 15th Instt as enter'd in the Book of their Proceedings N°. 14 & 16 Read giving an Account in general of the present State of their Commission and of the Contested Districts, and relating an Action of the French Commandant at Outremaloor who on the 11th. Instant Sent a Party from that Garrison and carried off above two hundred Sheep from the Contested Villages by name Timmaporum and Walangad. The two Declarations of the Inhabitants of those Villages and of three of the Company's Sepoys posted there (enter'd after N°. 14) give a particular Account of this Incursion.

Agreed to represent the Irregularity of this Conduct to Mr Leyrit and to demand Restitution of the Sheep.

Agreed also to direct the Commissaries to take a Survey of the Fort of Carongoly, and advise us what Supplies will be necessary for it's immediate Defence.

The President acquaints the Committee that Major Kilpatrick brought in and deliver'd to him the Seal'd Bag sent out from Veloor by Murtaz ally Cawn and Said to contain twenty thousand Rupees; that He the President open'd the Bag and found it fill'd with various sorts of Coin which being Sold produced only two

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, APRIL 1756.*—— [20th]

thousand and four Pagodas, Sixteen Fanams and two Cash (2004–16–2) Order'd that it be reported to the President and Council that they may give Directions for the Disposal of the Money.

The President further acquaints the Committee that pursuant to the Resolution made the 26th February he has been endeavouring to find a proper Person to Send to Delly in quality of our Vackeel; That Paupa Braminey being the only Person he could meet with fit for our Purpose he ask'd him whether he was willing to go. That Paupa represented to him in answer that to go in a Private and Secret way he would be held in no Esteem or Respect, and unable on that account to do the Company any Service, that on the other hand was he to go with Pomp and publick Attendance it would be impossible for him to pass through the Northern Countries which are govern'd by Agents of the French Our Intention therefore on this Subject must remain in Suspence untill an Opportunity may offer of fulfilling them.

Letter from Governor Vermont of Negapatam in full answer to the Complaint made to him on the Subject of the Incroachments of the Dutch upon the Village of Ariavetty; Setting forth that the Dutch Company have had a washing Godown there for upwards of a hundred Years, that they did some time ago put up a Flag and placed a Corporal with Six Men there because the French Seem'd to have a Design against it; That the Men and Flag were soon withdrawn again, and that they do not pretend to the least Right over the Paddy Fields or any thing more than the Washing Godown and the Company's Garden adjoining.

The following Letters from Captain Lee read.

To the Hoñble George Pigot Esqr. Presidt & Governor &ca.
Gentlemen of the Committee at Fort St. George.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

I am honor'd with your Letter of the 10th Inst and have receiv'd the Stores safe agreable to the List sign'd by Mr. Wynch and yesterday dispatch'd Bullocks from this Place to bring up the remainder of the Indent, As the Military Quarter Masters Stores have been encumber'd some time past with many unserviceable Arms, and which cannot be repaired in Camp I have sent them down to the number of 97 and think it my Duty to acquaint you that Several of the Arms now in use both among the Europeans and Sepoys upon a Strict Review are found to be almost worn out by long Service and have been so often repaired that there is no Dependence to be had on them. With the addition of 150 new Stands of Arms the Battallion can be properly compleated, and most of those taken from the Europeans will very well replace an equal Number of the Worst among the Sepoys.

I have receiv'd 1000 Pollipet Pagodas more on Meermalongs account, the Vackeel who was sent in from Bommerauze a few days ago, after making a great many fair promises has disappear'd, and these two days past I have not been able to hear any thing of him, neither has Bommerauze answer'd the last Letter I wrote him, and I hear from Narang that he has little hopes of succeeding in getting payment of the Cadjan Note, at least for some time.

Yesterday the Nabob desir'd I would detach 300 more Sepoys to assist in the care of the Jagueers taken from Murtaz ally Cawn which I accordingly order'd and they march'd immediately, the Nabob has sign'd an Order on the Amuldars for their Pay and Batta during the time they are employ'd in this Business.

I have enclos'd a List of a few Stores, omitted by Lieutenant Godwin in his former Indent which are much wanted.

I am with the greatest Respect
Hoñble Sir & Sirs
Your most Oblig'd most Obedient
& most humble Servant

Arcot
16 April 1756.

William Lee.

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[20TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, APRIL 1756.*——

To GEORGE PIGOT ESQR. PRESIDENT AND GOVERNOR
&CA. GENTLEMEN OF THE COMMITTEE AT FORT ST. GEORGE.

Honble Sir & Sirs

I have received the honor of your Letter of the 14th Instant, and shall take care the Company's Sepoys are employ'd agreable to your Instructions, the Nabob also informs me that he will order his Troops to desist from any further attempts on the Veloor Forts, as without some Cannon it would not be possible to reduce them; Murtaz ally has reinforced his People in that Part of the Country and from the Representations of the Nabob and our own Subedars employ'd there I have been obliged to detach more Sepoys. There are now two compleat Companies to take care of Toutpet and the Villages depending on it, and two more at Coupang, the former 15 Corse, the other ten from this Place and both lay to the Right of Trinomalee Road.

Mr. Lullin 2d Lieutenant of Captain Gauppe's Company, Died the 18th in the Evening; I am with the greatest Respect Honble Sir & Sirs Your most Obliged most Obedt and most humble Servant

Arcot
19th April 1756. WILLIAM LEE.

Order'd that one hundred and fifty new Stands of Arms be sent to Camp and that Captain Lee be directed to Send in all Such as are unserviceable that as many of them as possible may be repair'd here.

Agreable to the Resolution of last Committee the following Order for preventing the Loss of Military Accoutrements is directed to be transmitted to all the Garrisons.

Also the following Order for the Regulation of Discharges, the Service having been frequently exposed to great Inconveniencies by the Men suddenly demanding their Discharges in the Field their contracted Time being expired without any Notice given.

ORDERS TO BE ADDED TO THE BOOK OF REGULATIONS OF MILITARY &CA.

If any Soldier or Sepoy shall wilfully or carelessly lose or Spoil any of his Accoutrements, Stoppage is to be made out of his Pay in Such Monthly Proportions as the Commanding Officer in the field or Garrison where he shall think fit at the following Rates vizt.,

For a Musquet	5 Pagodas
For a Bayonet	18 fanams
For a Sling	9 "
For a Cartouch Box	9 "
For a Worm	1 "
For a Picker	40 Cash.

Every Non-Commission'd Officer or Soldier shall a Month before the Expiration of his contracted time make a Report thereof to his Captain or the Commanding Officer of the Company he belongs to, in Order that he may either receive his Discharge or the Bounty Money for Relisting; and every Captain or Commanding Officer of a Company having received Such Notice Shall report it in writing to the Town Major or Commanding Officer; it being intended by this that no Non Commission'd Officer or Soldier shall serve after the Expiration of his contracted Time without being regularly relisted.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, APRIL 1756.*—— [20TH.]

The President acquaints the Committee that Tetarapah Moodilley, the Merchant who is desirous of renting the Tinnevelly Country is arriv'd and that he will deliver his Proposals in writing in a day or two.

GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
AR. WYNCH.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.
ROBT. PALK.

Sent a Letter of this date to Colonel Adlercron as enter'd No. 31, and the following Letter to Captain Lee pursuant to the foregoing Resolutions.

To CAPTAIN WILLIAM LEE.

Sir

We have received your Letters dated the 16h & 19th we have order'd the additional Indent for Stores to be complied with and one hundred and fifty new Stands of Arms to be Sent agreable to your Recommendation to compleat the Battallion you must send in all those that are unserviceable in order that as many of them as possible may be repair'd here and you will give Strict Charge to all our People to take care of their Arms.

You will find by our former Letter that it is our Intention only to secure the Jagueers already seized from Murtaz ally Cawn.

Mr. Charles Joecher is appointed Second Lieutenant of Captain Gauppes Company in the Room of Mr. Lullin and Mr. Henry Oswald to Succeed Mr. Joecher as Ensign. Their Commissions shall be sent out accordingly. We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants

Fort St. George
21 April 1756. GEORGE PIGOT &CA COMMITTEE.

Sent a Letter of this date from the President to Mr. De Leyrit, as enter'd in the French Correspondence No. 28. 22D.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present.

THURSDAY THE 22D.

GEORGE PIGOT ESQR. GOVERNOR PRESIDENT
STRINGER LAWRENCE HENRY POWNEY
ROBERT ORME ...
WILLIAM PERCEVAL ROBERT PALK.
MR. WYNCH *absent.*

Tetarapah Moodillee being presented to the Committee delivers his Proposals for Renting the Tinnevelly Country. Which Proposals being interpreted are to the following Effect.

First that he will take the Farm of Tinnevelly for three years beginning from the 1st of July next; Paying for the first Year Eleven Lacks of Rupees, for the Second Year twelve Lacks, and for the third Year thirteen Lacks, in all thirty Six Lacks.

Secondly. That he will give good and Satisfactory Security on the Soucars by the 30th of July next, and in case of failure on his Part in giving the Said Security, he will make himself liable to a forfeit.

Thirdly, That from the time of his Arrival in the Tinnevelly Country (for which he will Set out immediately) untill the first of July he will act as Amuldar for

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[22ᵇ] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, APRIL 1756.*——

the Nabob collect the Rents that are due; Pay the Troops and be accountable for the Ballance. This he desires in Order to gain him Credit in the Country, by which he will be enabled to get Security.

Fourthly. That to enable him to regulate the Affairs of the Country, the Detachment of Sepoys lately sent there must be left under his Directions with Guns, Ammunition and Stores, he paying the whole Expence, to the first of July on account of the Circar, and afterwards on his own Account.

Fifthly. That in case of a Great Disturbance at any time in future, Such Assistance as can be Spared must be sent him, he paying the Expence of Batta to the Troops and the Cost of the Ammunition and Stores that may be expended in short all Extraordinary Charges.

Tetarapah Moodillee proceeded then to represent to the Committee that by the Tinnevelly Country he means the whole that was comprehended under that Title before the Troubles, such Districts therefore as have gone out of the Possession of the Circar and been separated from the Government must be either recover'd to him, or their Value deducted from the Rent he is to pay.

That the first, and most considerable of these is the Fort and District of Nadamundulum which the Rebels lately took from Mohofoz Cawn and have still in Possession.

Secondly That the Polygar Catabominague Posseses a District belonging to Tinnevelly worth forty thousand (40,000) Rupees a year which Mohofoz Cawn lately assign'd to him.

And Thirdly that the King of Travencore has got possession of since the Troubles, certain Districts belonging to Tinnevelly which remain at this time under his Management.

Moodillee then retir'd, and the further Consideration of this Affair is defer'd to Monday the 26 Instᵗ.

GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
... ...
WILLᴹ. PERCEVAL.
ROBᵀ. PALK.

MONDAY THE 26TH.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

GEORGE PIGOT ESQᴿ.	GOVERNOR PRESIDENT
STRINGER LAWRENCE	HENRY POWNEY
ROBERT ORME	ALEXANDER WYNCH
WILLIAM PERCEVAL	ROBERT PALK.

Tetarapah Moodillee's Proposals for Renting Tinnevelly Country are taken into Consideration the needful Enquiries having been first made from the Nabob's Vackeel and others concerning the Revenues it us'd formerly to produce, from which making a reasonable Allowance for the Damages the continual Troubles of late Years must have occasion'd, it appears that the Sum offer'd by Tetarapah Moodillee is as much as could be expected.

The next Consideration is the Security offer'd which is not to be produced untill the 30th July, after he has begun to take upon him the Management of the Country.

As Tetarapah Moodillee is a Person whose Circumstances and Credit we know only by Report it would be but prudent to make him produce his Security before we vest him with any Authority over the Country he proposes to [Rent], and this Caution we would by no means omit was it not absolutely impossible to get such

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, APRIL 1756.*—— [26TH.]

Security, by reason that no Soucar will give a Bill or become Security [to any Person who is not in actual] Possession, and in a Capacity of collecting Revenues. And therefore the Committee are of Opinion that with the Precaution of keeping our own Troops about his Person, he might be appointed to the Management of the Country in the manner he desires untill the Time Stipulated for the Security to be given shall elapse, and it be seen whether he fails in his Engagement or not.

After acceding so far to Tetarapah Moodillee's Proposals there will remain to be Settled the Deductions demanded for the three Districts mention'd in last Committee. One Possess'd by the Rebel Chief Abdul Nabey Cutteck One by the Polygar Cattabominague; and one by the King of Travencore.

The first of these, there is some reason to hope is by this retaken as Usoff Cawn in his Letter enter'd N°. 94 in the Country Correspondence writes that he designs to Attempt the Reduction of it in his way from Madura to Tinnevelly if by the Intelligence he can get he shall find it prudent.

How far it may be necessary to abide by Mahofoz Cawn's En[g]agements with Catabominaigue concerning the Second, we are unable to judge.

And with regard to the Third possess'd by the King of Travencore, as he will probably dispute the restoring them, and they are not of great Importance we should think it better to let them remain in his hands than to run the Risque of a Rupture with a Power who by his Strength and Situation is able [to] give continual Alarms to the whole Tinnevelly Country, and to Distress the Company's Settlements on the Malabar Coast, (Tellichery and Anjengo) at his pleasure.

A Reasonable Deduction may therefore be allowed for Such Villages of the Tinnevelly District as are in his Possession, and also for that possess'd by Catabominaigue in case it is resolv'd to let them remain with him.

The Nabob who best understands the Nature of Mohofoz Cawn's agreement with Catabominaigue must decide this Question; He also must Settle what Sums ought to be Deducted and give us his Opinion upon the several Articles of Tetarapah Moodillee's Proposals whether they are such as ought to be admitted or not. It is Agreed therefore to write him a particular Detail of all that has pass'd, and to wait his answer Tetarapah Moodillee remaining here in the mean time.

If the Terms prove agreable to the Nabob we think the Opportunity of turning that considerable Country to some Advantage should not be lost, for according to the present Management It is a Burthen instead of a Benefit both to him and us, nothing having unto this time been received out of the Revenues towards the Payment of the Nabob's Debt to the Company, nor has Mohofoz Cawn, the Governor even fulfill'd the Agreements he made with Colonel Heron on which Account he is Still indebted to the Company, one hundred and twenty one thousand Rupees.

Mahomed Usoff Cawn in his Letter N°. 94 beforemention'd advises that he is very much in want of Money for the Payment of the Troops under his Command, Mohofoz Cawn having taken no care to Supply him; Agreed that Usoff Cawn be directed to press Mohofoz Cawn and use his utmost Endeavors to get a Supply from him for the Payment of the Troops, but if all his Applications should prove ineffectual in such Case that he have Liberty to draw on Captain Caillaud for Sufficient to pay the Men of the Train, [Coffrees] and Sepoys belonging to the Company. The Committee think it necessary to lodge such Power in Usoff Cawn for fear that the Sepoys &c^a. being distress'd for Pay should desert to the Polygars; but it is Agreed to caution [him] at the Same time not to make use of it untill he has try'd by all means to get Supplies from Mohofoz Cawn.

A Letter from Tondiman Polygar read as enter'd N°. 92 advising of the Troops he sent to join Mohofoz Cawn in compliance with our Request; Order'[d that a] Letter of Friendship be wrote him thanking him for said Assistance.

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[26TH.] ——*FORT ST· GEORGE, APRIL 1756.*——

A Letter from Mr· Warke Surgeon in Camp representing that he lately provided a few Hospital [*a word lost*] and other Necessaries for the Service of the Sick and requesting his Bill may be paid and an Order given for his future Supply. Agreed to write Captain Lee to direct the Commissary in Camp to pay Mr· Warke's Bill and to furnish such other Necessaries as may be found requisite for the Sick in future.

A Letter from the Nabob as enter'd No· 95 in the Country Correspondence Read, advising that Antazey Punt, his Vackeel, will deliver a Bill on Purshutum doss's Ducan or House for one hundred and twenty two thousand (122,000) Rupees [a] [the] further part of the four Lack which will be due the 1st· of next Month out of the Eight Lack assign'd by the Nabob to the Company from the Rents of the Arcot Countries, particular[s] Enter'd in the Minutes of Committee the 8th October last.

B. Rece'd. 13th April 4000)

And the President now produces the Said Bill which he received from Antazee Punt, payable the 31st· May and is on the following Accounts.

On Account of Nazeab[ulla] Cawn Renter of Saravapelly Vellour	...	...	...	61,000
On Account of Meer Mahomed Japhir Renter of Chettour	...	...	...	27,500
On Account of Mahomed [Mohi]edeen Renter of Musserevauck	...	...	...	33,500
		R[upees]	...	122,000

being the half of their Respective Obligations and in full of what is due from them on account of this first Payment.

The President is desired to report to the President and Council the Receipt of the said Bill that they may give Directions concerning it.

GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
AR· WYNCH.
WILLM· PERCEVAL.
ROBT· PALK.

Sent the following Letters to Captain Caillaud and Captain Lee pursuant to the Resolutions of the foregoing Committee.

To CAPTAIN JOHN CAILLAUD.

No. 29. Sir

We inclose two Orders to be publish'd in your Garrison and added to the Book of Military Regulations.

Let the Serjeant return'd from Desertion be put on Duty as a Private Man.

We have permitted Usoof Cawn to draw on you for the Money necessary to pay the Company's Sepoys Gunners and Coffrees if after his utmost Endeavors he shall find it impossible to get any from Mahofoz Cawn. You will therefore answer such Bills and Debt the Commissary. We are Sir Your most Obedient humble Servants GEORGE PIGOT—STRINGER LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY—ROBERT ORME—ALEXANDER WYNCH—WILLIAM PERCEVAL—ROBERT PALK.

Fort St· George
27th April 1756.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, APRIL 1756*—— [26TH.]

To CAPTAIN WI[LLIAM] LEE.

[Sir]

We inclose two Orders to be added to the Book [of General] Regulations, and to be publish'd and observ'd in Camp.

Order the Commissary to discharge Mr. Warke's [Bill] of the Cost of Cloaths and other necessaries provided for the Hospital and to pay in future Such Charges as may be requir'd on that Account.

You are to Send down Lieutenant Brooke and Serjeant Doile of the Train to Fort St David, from when[ce] Mr Bonjour is order'd to Camp.

We are Sir
Your most Obedient Servants
GEORGE PIGOT &CA COMMITTEE.

Fort St George
27th April 1756.

Receiv'd a Letter from Colonel Adlercron dated 28th Instant as enter'd in the Book of Correspondence with him No. 32. 28TH.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

GEORGE PIGOT ESQR GOVERNOR PRESIDENT		THURSDAY THE 6TH MAY.
STRINGER LAWRENCE	HENRY POWNEY	
ROBERT ORME	ALEXANDER WYNCH	
WILLIAM PERCEVAL	ROBERT PALK.	

Letter from Colonel Adlercron No. 32 dated the 24th April read, acknowledging the Receipt of the General account of Disbursements made by the Company on account of the Regiment, and that he believes every thing may have been issued as therein mention'd, al[ledging] however that he does not See the necessity of his [Signing] the Account, the most considerable part thereof being the Gratuity made to the Troops for which the Paymaster [of the] Regiment has given Acknowledgments, and the [rest b]eing Articles which the Service absolutely requir'd [and] no more than the Company's Troops are allow'd, for which also the proper Officers have given Receipts; and concluding with a Promise that if the Court of Directors should make any Scruples in respect [*Two pages lost*] *

Callendar's March. The King has left his Capital for a Tour of three Months. He is now at Vedarnium on the Sea Coast.

Inclos'd is the Translation of a Letter receiv'd from the French Commissary at Seringham, with the Copy of my Answer, According to which I shall act and wait your further Orders. I am with the greatest Respect

Hoñble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedient & faithful Servant
JNO. CAILLAUD.

Trichenopoly
26 April 1756.

* They form the first sheet of Military Consultation Vol. No. 6, and include the first portion of Jno. Caillaud's letter recorded below.

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[6TH.]

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 1756.*——

Translation of a Letter from the Commissary of the French Troops at Syringham.

Sir 24 April 1756.

As Commissary of the French Troops in this Garrison; I am required by Mr Bartlemy Second of Pondichery to communicate to you the new regulation which has been made for the Pay, and Subsistence of the French Prisoners at Trichenopoly. That Gentleman informs me that the Governor of Cuddalore, furnishes Wood and Rice to the French Prisoners which are there, and according to the Account he sends in he is paid every month. Mr Bartlemy writes to me then that I will desire of you to make the same Advances for their Subsistence which he will repay you every Month, that [is] to say for the Wood and Rice, but their pay will be [Sent from] here. I hope Sir you will Agree to the above Regulation.

I am &ca.

(Sign'd) FLACOURT.

Copy of the Answer to the foregoing Letter.

Sir Trichenopoly, 25th April 1756.

I have been honor'd with your Letter advis[ing] me that a new Regulation has been made at Pondichery by Mr Barthlemy with regard to the Payment of the Prisoners here, and that for the future they are to be Subsisted, As those are at Fort St David; As I am entirely ignorant [of] the Method followed there (only from what you are pleased to tell me); you will give me leave to advise the Governor and Council of Madras that such a change is to be made; that [I] may receive their Orders & directions on that head, Untill then the Prisoners may be paid as you please, But with regard to [the] Distribution of Wood and Rice you must Send a proper Person here to make it; for I cannot pretend to take the charge of it on me, untill I am honor'd with Directions from Madras.

I am &ca.

(Sign'd) J. CAILLAUD.

The taking of Nadamundalum by Mahomed Usoff Cawn is very Opportune as it will Save the Necessity of any further Discussion concerning the Deduction demanded on Account of that District [by] Tetarapah Modillee from the Rent he offers for Tinnevelly.

The Committee do not [approve] of the new Regulation propos'd by the Commissary of the French Troops at Syringham for the Subsistence of the Prisoners lying in Trichenopoly; we felt great Inconveniencies during the Troubles from the furnishing those Same Prisoners with Wood and Rice at a time when our own People were in great want of Provisions. The French have for above a twelvemonth past taken care themselves to find Provisions for their Prisoners. It cannot therefore be difficult for them to continue to do it and it is on all accounts adviseable for us to keep them up to that Method. Agreed therefore to direct Captain Caillaud not to admit any new Regulation concerning the Prisoners.

Two Letters from Captain Lee read as follows.

TO THE HOÑBLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQR.

Hoñble Sir

From the daily accounts I received from the Nabob some time past, I flatter'd myself I should have had the honor 'ere this of informing you that every thing had been settled between him and Murtaz ally Cawn to your Satisfaction, on waiting on

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 1756.*—— [6m.]

the Nabob this morning He now tells me he has lost all hopes of an Accommodation, that [by] a Letter from Veloor the Killedar denies Authorizing any Person to treat on this Subject, and disapproves of all that has been done, on the contrary the Nabob assures me the Person he sent was his proper Vackeel call'd Naran Row & was by his own orders employ'd to negotiate this Affair.

That the Killedar only intended to trifle is probable, as he has all along kept up a close Correspondence with Mr Leyrit, My Hircarras had this Information from his, who were together in Pondichery, and it is certain He has taken into his Service a considerable Addition of Horse & Sepoys many of which were discharged by the Nabob, I am credibly inform'd by the Soucars that within this Fortnight he has taken into pay 700 new Horse and 1000 Sepoys or Peons 300 of which have Europe Arms.

This morning the Nabob desired to know from me, whether if the Army moved from Arcot, the Sepoys now employ'd in taking care of the Veloor Jageers would be left there; I told him that entirely depended on the Instructions you was pleas'd to give, and that it was necessary he should address you if he was in want of them; He told me he had not force Sufficient to keep possession without our Assistance neither could he raise any good Sepoys in his own Name that would be of Service to him as it was not in his power to pay them regularly, that many of the Pollygars were taking in new ones, and they would naturally go where they were assur'd of the best Pay, the enclos'd Letter the Nabob tells me will explain the Situation of his Affairs more particularly.

As Murtaz ally Cawn has now entirely broke with the Nabob it is very probable he may attempt the Recovery of his Forts and Villages, the former are represented by the Subedars to be very defenseless, I should therefore be glad you would please to honor me with your Orders, how far you approve of my supporting those Posts in case of necessity, by any farther Detachments from this Place.

I have been with Lieutenant Godwin and Quarter Master Rumbold to examine the Field Artillery and Camp Equipage; a State of both I have the honor to enclose you, and am, Honble Sir, with the greatest Respect

Your most Obliged most Obedt & humble Servant

WILLIAM LEE.

Arcot
26th April 1756.

To THE HONBLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQR.
PRESIDENT AND GOVR &CA GENTLEMEN
OF THE COMMITTEE OF CORRESPONDENCE.

Honble Sir & Sirs

I have received the honor of your Letter of the 21st. Instant also the Stores indented for, agreable to the List sent up by Mr Wynch; and as soon as I can collect the bad Arms from the Sepoys employ'd in the Veloor Districts to be exchanged for those taken from the Battalion, I will Send down all that are unserviceable.

As I found Meer Malong was more dilatory than usual in paying the Money he was Security for, I sent for Narrain to give me a particular Account of what expectations he had to get the remainder of the 8000 Pagodas, and if there was any probability of Bommerauze paying the 70,000 Rupees, in answer to the first he says Meer Malong meets with greater obstruction in collecting the Grain and finds it very difficult to get it Sold but still thinks the Company may be assur'd of receiving the Remainder in ten days more with the Money now paid by Narang; the Sum received from Meer Malong is 5900 Polliput Pagodas, and 40 from Bommerauze on account of the Sepoys Batta, who wrote me he would pay the Ballance As soon as I sent the Account. I have yet received no Answer to it, or indeed to any Letter I wrote him

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[6th] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 1756*——

lately. Narang also is of Opinion he will not discharge the Cadjan Note; I should therefore be glad to be honor'd with your Instructions whether or no you would have me recall Narang and the Sepoys as soon as Meer Malong has paid us his Account. I am with the greatest Respect Hon'ble Sir & Sirs Your most Obliged and most Obedient hble Servant

Arcot
27 April 1756. WILLIAM LEE.

By the Report of Captain Lee and the Quarter Masters it appearing that all the Field Pieces in Camp are much worn by the long Service they have done, and it being necessary above all things that the Army should be provided with a good Artillery, it is Agreed that four new Brass Six Pounders be sent from hence that Captain Lee be directed to Dispatch the Number of Bullocks necessary to transport them and on receipt of them to return hither the Field Pieces that are now with the Army except one three Pounder which it is Agreed to send to Carongoly with Sixty Rounds of Ammunition in compliance with the Indent transmitted by Capt. Gauppe for Stores necessary to Secure that Fort against a Surprize. Order'd also that the other Articles of the said Indent be Supplied from hence.

In answer to the other Parts of Capt. Lee's foregoing Letters It is Agreed to direct him to make use of the Force under his Command to Secure the Jageers lately taken from the Dependence of Veloor against any Attempts Murtaz ally Cawn may make for the Recovery of them, and to use his best endeavors to get the Money due to the Company from the Pollygar Bommerauze by sending him a more peremptory Demand and using such other means, as he shall think most proper to enforce the Said Demand.

Letters from the Commissaries at Madarantegum dated the 2d and 5th Instant read as enter'd N° 19 & 20 in the Book of their Proceedings; Setting forth divers Excesses committed in the Contested Districts by the French Commissaries who have increased their Number of Seapoys [to] near one thousand, Spreading them in every Village preventing by open Force the Grain from being cut, and introducing most unlawful Innovations particularly the Fact mention'd in the Letter N° 20 by which we find that on the 29th and 30th Ult° they let pass by force three hundred Bullocks loaded with Grain for Pondichery thro' the Village of Padry (a Place of the Contested Districts) without Suffering them to pay the usual Juncan (or Custom) which was regularly demanded by our Amuldar.

From Such a Conduct it may be concluded that the French are resolv'd to proceed no further in the amicable Discussion of our respective Pretensions, It is therefore necessary and unanimously Resolv'd to direct our Commissaries to attend to the Preservation of our Authority over the Contested Districts in the best manner they are able with the Force they have.

Two Letters from Mr. Drake at Deve Cotah read as follow.

To THE HON'BLE GEORGE PIGOT Esqr
&CA. GENTLEMEN OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

I am honour'd with your favor of the 14th Instant with the inclosed Letter for Admiral Watson, & a Caution to all Commanders of English Ships or Vessells. Your Commands in regard to both shall be very strictly obey'd, as well as the Fort be immediately put into the best defence it [is] capable of.

[We] have not the least Provisions of any kind in the p[la]ce and but very few Stores, an Account of which comes inclos'd, wrote against each Article Serviceable or unserviceable, Also comes inclos'd a Letter from Captain Spear to me with the underwritten particulars, accompanied with Indents of Artillery and Quarter Master's Stores which he thinks absolutely necessary.

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——*FORT S^T. GEORGE, MAY 1756.*—— [6TH]

I have already sent to enquire what Quantity of Paddy and Rice there is now in these Bounds, and Shall endeavor to purchase the whole as soon as possible at the cheapest Rate, if not Sufficient I shall strive to get it else where—and as a Supply of Cash will be immediately wanted I have wrote to the Gentlemen at St David for a Supply of five thousand Pagodas or more if they can well Spare it.

As fast as the Paddy comes in, it shall be lodged in the Fort in heaps agreable to the manner you direct. I think it not amiss to acquaint you that I hear the Commandant of Chellumbrum has already laid in a Supply of upwards of four hundred Garce and has ordered, as much more to be laid in as Soon as possible. I am also inform'd that this Grain is the produce of their own Bounds but as our Limits do not produce anything near that Quantity, I should be glad you would favor me with your Orders how much you would have me lay in.

As soon as the Troops from Trichenopoly arrive, they shall be kept in readiness to move at a moments warning as you are pleased to direct. I am with the utmost Respect Hoñble Sir & Sirs Your most Obedient and Obliged humble Servant

Deve Cotah
19 April 1756. DAWSONNE DRAKE.

To THE HOÑBLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQ^R.
&C^A GENTLEMEN OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

Since my address to you of the 19th Instant I have enquir'd what quantity of Paddy there is in these Bounds and find there is about a hundred Garce, as to Rice there is not a Grain. I sent for the Renter's Agent & endeavour'd what I could to purchase the whole of him but he told me he had positive Orders not to Sell it till the latter End of next Month, however if I would consent to give him Sixty five (65) Pagodas a Garce he would venture to sell it me, and this he told me was less than he should get for it if he kept it a short time, but as that is above ten (10) Pagodas more than the Market Price I could not think of purchasing it of him, but agreed to refer it to your Honor &c^a to settle it with Messrs. Orme and Smith at Madras which I hope will meet with your approbation, In the mean time I have order'd it to be brought into the Fort as soon as possible and have bespoke a quantity of other things necessary for the use and Support of the Garrison.

The Troops from Trichenopoly are not as yet arrived, nor have I had any advice of their setting out. I am with the greatest Respect Hoñble Sir & Sirs Your most Obedient humble Servant

Deve Cotah
24 April 1756. DAWSONNE DRAKE.

P.S.—I think it but proper to acquaint you that the Market Price of our Buzar is no Standard Price for Grain because the quantity that is Sold is very small, from fifteen to twenty Pagodas a day, and that procur'd with some difficulty.

Agreed that the Store of Grain for Deve Cotah be one hundred Garce of Paddy and that the Price be settled with the Renters here. Mr Smith being return'd from Deve Cotah and able to furnish Sufficient Proof against Captain Spears upon the Matters mention'd in Committee the 12th and 26th January Agreed that he be Order'd up to Madras and that Lieutenant Hume who is esteem'd a very good Officer, and is besides qualified in some measure as an Engineer be sent to Deev Cotah in his Stead; that the Several Indents accompanying Mr Drake's Letters be referr'd to his Inspection, and that Mr Engineer Call do accompany him from Fort S^t. David to Deve Cotah in order that they may jointly take a Survey of the State of the Fort, and report to us what is necessary to be done for its immediate Defence.

It appearing by the Fort St David Payrolls for the last Month that the Casualties are not noted at the foot in the manner directed by the Military Regulations

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[6TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 1756.*——

Agreed that it be remark'd to Mr Starke in order that he may direct the Paymaster to be more careful in future, And it being mention'd in a private Letter from Mr Starke to the President that Some of our Men who have Deserted lately are entertain'd in the Service at Pondichery contrary to the Articles of the Cartel it is Order'd that particular Enquiry be made into the Circumstances of that Fact, what are the Men's Names, when they deserted, and from what Place, after which a regular Complaint may be sent Mr. De Leyrit.

Letter from Captain Polier Read accompanying a French Deserter who came lately to Changleput and who has already twice Deserted from the French and been return'd Since the Cartel. Agreed nevertheless that Notice be given to Mr De Leyrit that he may Send a Guard to receive him.

Letter from the Nabob as enter'd in the Country Correspondence No 101 Read advising that he has receiv'd the Tribute due from the Dutch at Sadras to the Year of Phasely 1165 (the present year) being, 21,666 Chuckrums ,, 8 fanas which is equal to Porto Novo Pagodas 10077½ the half of which being Porto Novo Pagodas, 5038¾ making at 2·7/8 ℔ cent Discount, Current Pagodas four thousand eight hundred and ninety Seven, thirty three fanams and fifty one Cash.

... ...	4897	33	51
Deduct the Premium for the Bill @ 13/8 ℔ Ct.	67	12	38
Current Pags.	4830	21	13

he has sent hither by Bill on Porshutumdoss's Ducan or House for account the Company.

Order'd that Report be made to the President and Council of the Receipt of the said Bill that they may give Directions concerning it.

Being inform'd that a large Quantity of Gunpowder was taken at Gheria it is Agreed to write to the President and Select Committee of Bombay to request they will Send us in the Month of August as large a Quantity of that if it be good if not of any other they can Spare as they Can find Conveyance for—And as by the Dodington's not arriving we are disappointed of the Artillery intended us by her it is further Agreed to desire the Gentlemen of Bombay to Supply us with as many as they can Spare of the Brass Twelve Pounders and Six Pounders Sent them last year.

GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
A. WYNCH.
WILLM PERCEVAL.
ROBT PALK.

Sent the following Letters to the Select Committee at Bombay Richard Starke Esqr. Captn. Caillaud, Mr Dawsonne Drake and Captain Lee pursuant to the Resolutions of the foregoing Committee.

TO THE HONBLE RICHARD BOURCHIER ESQR PRESIDENT & GOVERNOR & THE GENTLEMEN OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE AT BOMBAY.

Honble Sir & Sirs

We request the favor you will Send us in the Month of August as much of the Powder taken at Gheria, if it be good as you can find Conveyance for; If that is not good, we beg you will Supply us with Such other as you can from your own Stores.

And as we are disappointed of the Field Artillery intended us by the Dodington we are also to desire you will Send us as many as you can Spare of the Brass Six Pounders and Twelve Pounders you received last Year.

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—— *FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 1756.*—— [7TH.]

His Majesty's Ship Bridgewater arrived here the 28th April. We have not received any remarkable Advices Since we had the honor of addressing you the 14th of that Month, of which Letter Duplicate is inclosed.

We are Hoñble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obedient humble Servants

GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBT ORME.
A. WYNCH.
WM PERCEVAL.
R. PALK.

Fort St. George
7th May 1756.

To RICHARD STARKE ESQR. DEPUTY GOVERNOR AT FORT ST. DAVID.

Sir

Upon Examination of the Pay Rolls of your Garrison for the Month of April, we remarkd that the new Regulations are not observ'd in the noting the Casualties which ought to be Specified at the foot of each Pay Roll as well as in the Monthly Return. Seven New Topasses are entertain'd in that or the former Month; we conclude this is not done without your Approbation, however if they are not extraordinary Good Men we are better without them. The Method of entertaining must be only this, when you approve any Man presented by the proper Officer you are to Signify such approbation to the Paymaster by whom the Man's Name must be enter'd in a Book with the Day of his admission into the Service by which Memorandum the Paymaster will be able to see if the Pay rolls are right.

You will please to give the Paymaster a Copy of this Order directing him to take particular Care that the Payrolls are made out conformably to the Regulations and that in all the other Business under his Management the Rules therein laid down are punctually observ'd.

We have appointed Lieutenant Hume to be Commandant at Deve Cotah. He is to call at St. David in his way and we desire Mr Call will accompany him to Deve Cotah that they may jointly take a Survey of the State of that Garrison and acquaint us what is wanting for its immediate Defence.

You mention in your Letter to the President that Some Deserters from us are detain'd according to Captain Pascall's Information at Pondichery. Endeavor to get a certain Account how far this is truth what are the Men's Names, whence they Deserted and at what time and acquaint us with the Result of this Enquiry.

We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants GEORGE PIGOT—STRINGER LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY—ROBT. ORME—ALEXANDER WYNCH—WILLIAM PERCEVAL—ROBT. PALK.

Fort St George
7th May 1756.

To CAPTAIN JOHN CAILLAUD. No. 80.

Sir

We have before us your Letters dated 23d & 26 April with regard to the Request of the French Commissary at Syringham, we cannot pretend to take upon us to furnish their Prisoners with any Sort of Provisions, you will therefore keep that Affair upon the old footing and let the French Commissary know that he must Send a proper Person to provide for them.

We have given Directions that Mr Stewart the Surgeon's Mate remain with Captain Callendar's Party. We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants

Fort St George
7th May 1756.

GEORGE PIGOT &CA. COMMITTEE.

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{7th.} ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 1756.*——

To Mr. Dawsonne Drake.

Sir

We have receiv'd your Letters dated the 19th & 24th April, with the Copy of Captain Spear's Letter to you concerning the State of the Garrison and the Indents for Artillery & Quarter Master's Stores.

Captain Spear's Presence being necessary at Madras upon an Enquiry we are about to make, we have appointed Lieutenant Hume Comandant at Devecotah & directed him to Set out as Soon as possible; On his Arrival You are to direct Captain Spear to repair hither.

As Mr. Hume has a Knowledge also in the Engineering Way we have refer'd all the Indents to his Examination and shall wait Mr. Call's & his Opinion concerning the Several Works recommended in Captn. Spear's Letter. Mr. Hume is to receive 15 Pagodas a Month as Engineer besides his Pay, Lieutenant Perceval is to join Captain Callendar's Party, which althō they are to be kept in readiness to march at a Short warning, is nevertheless not to be Dieted or maintain'd at any extraordinary Charge. Let Mr. Steward the Surgeon's Mate remain at Deve Cotah untill Captain Callendar Shall march, when he is to accompany the Party.

The Store we would have in your Garrison is one hundred Garce of Paddy. We shall endeavor to agree with the Renter upon the Price, you will try however in the mean time to purchase of any Vessels that may call at your Place. Besides Paddy, nothing but Salt & Firewood will be necessary to be laid in. We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants George Pigot—Stringer Lawrence—Henry Powney—Robert Orme—Alexander Wynch—Willm. Perceval—Robert Palk.

Fort St George
7th May 1756.

To Captain William Lee.

Sir

We have before us your Letter of the 27th April and your Letter to the President of the 26th. We have perused also the Reports of the State of the Artillery and Tents in Camp. Send down the number of Bullocks necessary for Transporting four new Six Pounders which we hold in readiness to Supply you with, and on receipt of these you may return to us the old Brass Six Pounders you have with one of the Iron three Pounders, the other Iron three Pounder is to be sent to Carongoly with a Gunner and a Matross to be under the Command of the Commissaries; Messrs. Gauppe and Bannatyne whom you will advice accordingly. Let there be about Sixty Rounds of Amunition with the Gun with some Grape, a Rammer, Ladle, Spunge &ca and you are to take care that the Gunner is a Sober, Diligent Man as he must have the Charge of the Stores, The Rest of the Ammunition for three Pounders you will Send hither.

Our Chief Reason for keeping the Army at Arcot is to awe Murtaz ally Cawn, to prevent his insulting the Circar's Districts and to maintain Possession of the Jageers Seiz'd. You are to endeavor therefore on all Occasions to fulfil those Ends not entirely after the manner the Nabob shall recommend but according to the Intelligence you yourself may receive detaching any Party you Shall judge necessary with such Instructions as you shall think proper.

You are to use your utmost endeavors to recover the Money due to the Company from Bommerauze. We leave it therefore to your own Discretion to recall Narrain

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 1756.*—— [7TH.]

or not to withdraw the Sepoys or to send more. You may try what effect a more peremptory Letter will have on that Pollygar, giving him to understand that we will no longer be trifled with.

We are
Sir
Your most Obedient Servants

Fort St George.
7 May 1756.

GEORGE PIGOT &C^{A} COMMITTEE.

Arriv'd the Hoñble Company's Ship Delawar from England. [9TH]

Receiv'd a Letter from Duval De Leyrit Esqr to the President dated the 6th Instant as enter'd in the French Correspondence N^{o}· 29.

Arriv'd Colonel Adlercron from Fort S^{t}· David. [10]

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

GEORGE PIGOT ESQ^{R}· GOVERNOR PRESIDENT
STRINGER LAWRENCE HENRY POWNEY
ROBERT ORME ALEXANDER WYNCH
WILLIAM PERCEVAL ROBERT PALK.

MONDAY 10TH

Letter receiv'd ℔ Ship Delawar address'd to the Select Committee at Fort St George being open'd is found to contain the Directions of Roger Drake Esqr Peter Godfrey Esqr., Christopher Burrow Esqr· and John Payne Esqr· the Secret Committee of the East India Company for the time being under date the 14th October 1755. Strenuously recommending the Preservation of the Tranquility restor'd to this Coast by the Provisional Treaty and Truce, concerning which Treaties no' Determination was made between the two Companies at the time of the Date of the beforemention'd Letter; the Disputes between the two Nations having prevented any Overtures for that purpose.

The Delawar who touch'd at the Cape bringing no news of the Dodington it is much to be fear'd She will never be heard of. The want of the Reinforcements intended us by her, more particularly the Royal Company of Artillery would be Sensibly felt in case the War should break out, the Detachment now at Fort S^{t}· David under the Command of Captain Hislop being insufficient for the Number of Field Pieces intended to be carried on Service with the Regiment It is Agreed therefore to write by express Pattamar to the Select Committee of Bombay requesting that they will Send hither as many of the King's Artillery and other Reinforcements which came out with Colonel Clive as they can possible [*sic*] Spare. This the Committee think the more necessary as by the Advices lately receiv'd from Salabat Jung's Camp (enter'd in the Country Correspondence N^{o}· 107) we are inform'd that an Alliance was concluded between Balazarow, the Head of the Morattas and Salabat Jung, and that their Armies were join'd before the Fort of Savanore where they had block'd up Morarow and were preparing to beseige him. If Balazarow Should continue in friendship with Salabat Jung it will give Such additional Weight to the Authority of this last, and thrō him to his Adherents the French, as will make it more than ever necessary for us to be prepar'd with all the Force we can collect together to Support the Company's Possessions and Government.

It is further Agreed to propose to the Select Committee of Bombay to dispatch the Honorable Company's Ship Protector, if She is not already dispos'd of with all Expedition hither, The English Fleets having taken many French Ships in Europe and America it is not unlikely the French may attempt to make Reprizals in India,

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[10TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 1756.*——

by fitting out as they did in the last War Some of their Company's Ships for fighting and Stationing one or more off Point Palmeiras and in other Posts of Advantage to cruize for our Company's Ships and Private Traders. In such Case the Protector would be of particular use, and the Gentlemen at Bombay may take the Opportunity of her coming round to Send us the Reinforcements above requested as well as the Gunpowder and Field Pieces mention'd in last Committee.

Agreed also to apprize the Select Committee at Bombay, that we have not receiv'd by the Delawar any Copies of the Letters and Instructions from the Secret Committee intended us by the Dodington in order that they make the best Method of forwarding to us the Said Copies if they have not already sent them by the Squadron.

Mr De Leyrit's Letter dated the 6th Instt. No. 29 Read in answer to the President's of the 14th & 22d April, On the Subject of the Passport given by Mr. D'auteuil to the English Deserters (as mention'd in these Minutes the 13th April) he says in his Justification that those Men reported they had been for some Years in the Service of the Moors. It may be remark'd on this Occasion and prov'd by the President's Letters to Mr De Leyrit that whenever a Man from the French Service has arrived in any Garrison of ours Regular Notice has always been sent to Pondichery —conformably to the Terms of the Cartel, and no Credit given to the Report of the Deserter himself Such Report being certainly very insufficient Foundation for any Publick Proceeding.

GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
AR. WYNCH.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.
ROBT PALK.

Sent the following Letter to the Select Committee at Bombay pursuant to the Resolutions of the foregoing Committee.

TO THE HOÑBLE RICHARD BOURCHIER ESQR. PRESIDENT AND GOVERNOR AND THE GENTLEMEN OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE AT BOMBAY.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

We address'd you by this Pattamar under date the 7th Instant. The Delawar importing the 9th from Europe we take the first opportunity of advising you of the State of Affairs there at the time of her Departure the 1st November last.

Altho War was not declar'd between Great Britain and France, yet our Men of War had for Some Months made Captures of every French Ship they met with. Already two Men of War of Sixty and Seventy Guns and above two hundred Sail of Merchantmen had been taken; The French had taken only one Ship from us; The Blandford Man of War of twenty Guns, and She was restor'd with all her Cargo by order of the Court of France. The War was vigorously carried on by Land also in America and this being the Situation of Affairs between the two Nations, no Overtures had been made between the two Companies concerning the Provisional Treaty and Truce concluded here to which we have therefore no answers. We are directed only to be Strictly on our Guard.

In these Circumstances we think it probable the French may attempt to make Reprizals in India and by fitting out some of their Company's Ships for War and Stationing them off Point Palmeiras and in other Posts of Advantage fall in with our Europe Ships as well as Private Traders. The Protector we imagine would be of great Service to us, if therefore she is not Sold before this Reaches you we recommend it to you as a Step we think very much for the Benefit and Security of the Company's Affairs to Send her round to us as soon as possible, She may bring such Powder and

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 1756.*—— [10TH.]

Guns as you can Spare in consequence of our Request of the 7th and as the Delawar who touch'd at the Cape brings no news of the Dodington we almost despair of receiving the Supplies intended us by that Ship, among which was a whole Company of the Kings Artillery and about 100 Military. The loss of these and especially of the Artillery we shall most heavily feel if the War should be renew'd in the Country, as in all probability it will, we request therefore that you will Send us by the Protector, if She comes round; if not by any other Conveyances, as many as you can possibly spare of the Artillery Companies, and Military Reinforcements that came out along with Colonel Clive, The King's Train now on this Coast consists of a very small Number of Men, by no means Sufficient for the Artillery the Regiment Should carry into the Field.

We do not yet hear of Admiral Watson on this Coast, we hope you have Sent us by him the Duplicates of the Letters intended us from the Secret Committee by the Dodington, as we have not received any Copies of them by the Delawar.

We have not yet received any answer from Balazaraw on the Subject of the Proposal mention'd in our Letter of the * 14th April. By our last Advices he was Still beseiging Morarow in the Fort of Savanore and the Same Accounts Say that Salabat Jung with the French Party commanded by Mr Bussy had join'd Balazarow. If Such an Alliance is actually made and should continue we have reason to dread the most evil Consequeng [*sic*] to the Company's Affairs on this Coast, Such as will render it absolutely necessary for us to be assisted to the utmost, with Men and Stores from your Side. We have the honor to be Gentlemen Your most Obedient hble Servants

*Enter'd in Private Committee.

Fort St. George
10 May 1756. GEORGE PIGOT &C^A. COMMITTEE.

Col^o. Adlercron arriv'd from St. David.

AT A COMMITTE

Present

GEORGE PIGOT ESQ^R.	GOVERNOR PRESIDENT	TUESDAY THE 11TH. MAY
STRINGER LAWRENCE	HENRY POWNEY	
ROBERT ORME	ALEXANDER WYNCH	
WILLIAM PERCEVAL	ROBERT PALK.	

Letter from the Nabob as enter'd N°. 108 in the Book of Country Correspondence Read in answer to the Presidents N°. 97 concerning the Offers of Tetarapah Moodillee for renting the Tinnevelly Country which Offers are detail'd in these Minutes the 22d & 26th April last. The Nabob does not enter into any clear Argument for, or against, those Offers but by the General Tenor of his Letter shews that he is not inclin'd to engage at any Rate with Tetarapah Moodilley, the only objections he mentions are, that he (Moodilly) remain'd a whole year in Trichenopoly without employ, and that his Father or Father in Law's Head was cut off by Moraree, when he was in possession of Trichenopoly for not paying him Money according to an Agreement made between them, from which Circumstances the Nabob takes occasion to conclude that this Moodily is not an honest Man, and that he will not produce his promised Security. He refers however the final Judgement whether to engage with Modillee or not to our Determination.

The Objections mention'd in the Nabob's foregoing Letter are so very ill founded that we cannot help judging they are started Solely with the view of keeping his Brother Mahofoz Cawn in the Government of the Tinnevelly Country. Our Opinion on the contrary is that he should by all means be removed and the Country let to farm in order that the Company may reap some Advantage from so considerable a Possession & Moodiley being an old and considerable Inhabitant there, we see no other Person so proper to undertake it; The Security he offers as is remark'd in these

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[11TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 1756.*——

Minutes the 26th April last is as good as any that can be got, and the Tryal of it can be attended with no bad consequence, especially if Mahomed Usoof Cawn be directed to remain there with the Troops untill the Time when the Security is to be given Shall Elapse, by which means the very possibility of Moodillee's executing bad Designs will be prevented, although we do not Suspect him of any Such.

And as a further Security a Part of the Company's Sepoys may be left to Garrison one of the Forts in that Country agreable to the Nabob's Recommendation, Moodillee paying the Expence of the Said Sepoys over and above his Rents.

The President is desired to give Notice to Moodillee to attend tomorrow morning, that he may finish the Bussiness beforemention'd, and send him away to the Nabob without further loss of time.

Agreed that the Letters from the Admiralty for Admiral Watson and Admiral Pocock which came by the Delawar be sent under the Charge of Lieutenant Hume, who will Set out in two or three days for Deve Cotah.

And that a Letter for Admiral Watson be lodged at Fort St. David in readiness to be deliver'd him on his Arrival, acquainting him that his Packets are to be Sent by Lieutenant Hume and informing him also of the Heads of the News from Europe.

The President acquaints the Committee that pursuant to the Order made the 6th Instant for purchasing the Devecotah Paddy, he discoursed with the Renters Messrs. Orme and Smith who consent that the Company shall have the whole Crop at the Rate of Sixty Pagodas ℔ Garse. Agreed that it be purchased, that Mr. Drake be advised thereof, directed to receive it, and acquaint us with the Quantity.

The following Letter from Mr. Dawsonne Drake Read.

To the Honble George Pigot Esqr. &ca. Gentlemen of the Private Committee.

Honble Sir and Sirs

Yesterday arriv'd the two Companies from Trichenopoly under the Command of Captain Callender, which I have order'd to be kept in readiness to move at a moment's warning agreable to your Honor &ca's Direction.

As the Gentlemen at St. David may probably be sometimes not Sufficiently in Cash to supply me with what I have occasion for, be pleased to acquaint me if I may in that case be permitted to draw upon you if I can. I am with the greatest Respect, Honorable Sir & Sirs

Deve Cotah
4th May 1756.

Your most Obedient humble Servant
Dawsonne Drake.

As the Paddy bought of the Deve Cotah Renters will be paid for here, Mr Drake will be Supplied without difficulty from Fort St. David with Such Sums as he may want for the Current Expences he will have no occasion to draw on us. Agreed to write him so in answer to his Letter.

Captain Polier writes that Ninar the Renter of Changleput has sent into the Fort two hundred & thirteen Culums and 9 Mercals of Paddy in part of twenty Garce he engaged to deliver within this Month. In another Letter Captain Polier represents that it [*sic*] is always customary among the Swiss Troops for Soldiers to be try'd by their own Officers and punish'd before their own Company, Regiment or Corps of which having appriz'd Colonel Adlercron he (the Colonel) gave orders that the Deserters of Captain Polier's Company Should not be tried in the same Court as those of Captain Schaub's, wherefore Captain Polier desires that the said Deserters of his Company, may be order'd from Fort St. David to Changleput and that Colonel Adlercron will allow him to try them there, as well as the one Man already confin'd there for Desertion.

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——*FORT St. GEORGE, MAY 1756.*—— [11TH.]

The President acquaints the Committee that he spoke on the Subject of the abovemention'd Letter to Colonel Adlercron who has promised to write to Captain Polier and give him leave to try the Man who is under confinement for Desertion at Changleput. With regard to the Men remaining at Fort St. David who were not try'd by Captn. Schaub because that they belonged to another Company, it is Agreed to write Captain Polier that the removing Men from one place to another would Subject the Company to a great Expence, and often to Inconveniences, which we think may as well be avoided by trying them always at the Place where the Offence is committed.

And the President further acquaints the Committee that Colonel Adlercron Shew'd him a Letter, which he received by the Ship Delawar, wrote him by the Secretary at War, by order of his Royal Highness the Duke, the Purport of which Letter was nearly to this Effect. "That upon the Complaints which had been made "to his Royal Highness by the Court of Directors that Colonel Adlercron exerted too "great an Authority in their Settlements, He was order'd to apprize him that the "East India Company are Sovereigns in their own Settlements, & accountable to the "King and Parliament; & further that he is to look upon all Allowances made to "himself, or the Regiment by the Company, as a Bounty and free Gift, no Officer or "Soldier in his Majesty's Service being entitled to any thing more than his Pay." Colonel Adlercron assur'd the President that he receiv'd these Orders with great Pleasure, as they would prevent any Disputes in Future the Points we disagreed on being such as he before thought himself Obliged by his Commission to insist on.

GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
AR. WYNCH.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.
[ROBT. PALK.]

Sent the following Letters to Rear Admiral Watson, and Mr. Dawsonne Drake pursuant to the Resolutions of the foregoing Committee. [12TH.]

To CHARLES WATSON ESQR. REAR ADMIRAL OF THE RED
& COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF HIS MAJESTY'S SQUADRON IN THE EAST INDIES.

Sir

We had the honor to communicate to you by a Letter dated 14th April the Reports we at that time received by a French Europe Ship arriv'd the 9th of that Month at Pondichery. The 9th Instant we had the pleasure to See the Company's Ship Delawar from England; She Sail'd the 1st November and brings an account that although War was not actually Declar'd with France, yet the British Fleets made Capture of every French Vessel they met with; this for some time before the Delawar sail'd, for two French Ships of the Line and above two hundred Sail of Merchantmen were already carried into English Ports. Of our Ships only the Blandford Man of War of twenty Guns had been taken and She was immediately restor'd by order of the Court of France.

In the Company's Box came Several Packets directed for you, and judging them to be of particular Consequence we had thoughts of desiring Capt. Smith to carry them on the Bridgewater and meet you at St. David, but considering afterwards how precarious the Passage would be, we have given them in charge to Lieutenant Hume who sets out overland to morrow and has Directions to Deliver them to Mr. Strake if you should not be arriv'd.

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[12TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 1756.*——

The Disputes between England and France have prevented any Overtures being made between the Two Companies on the Subject of the Provisional Treaty and Truce concluded here; to which therefore we have no Definitive Answer. We inclose a List of Ships taken up by the Company for this Year. Those intended for the Coast and China were to Sail the beginning of December, Those for the Coast and Bay the beginning of February. We have the Honor to be, Sir, Your most Obedient humble Servants GEORGE PIGOT—STRINGER LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY—ROBERT ORME—ALEXR. WYNCH—WILLIAM PERCEVAL—ROBERT PALK.

Fort St. George
12th May 1756.

To MR. DAWSONNE DRAKE.

Sir

We have before us your Letter of 4th May. We have purchased the Paddy of the Deve Cotah Renters at the Rate of 60 Pagodas a Garse; You are therefore to Send us immediately an account how much you have receiv'd.

The Money for the Paddy is to be paid here the Supplies of Cash you may want for other occasions cannot be very large, we doubt not therefore but you will be furnish'd without difficulty from St. David. We are Sir Your most Obedt. Servants

Fort St. George
12 May 1756.

GEORGE PIGOT &CA COMMITTEE.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

GEORGE PIGOT ESQR GOVERNOR PRESIDENT
STRINGER LAWRENCE — HENRY POWNEY
ROBERT ORME — ALEXANDER WYNCH
WILLIAM PERCEVAL — ROBERT PALK.

WEDNESDAY THE 12TH.

The President acquaints the Committee that the Nabob's Vackeel in conversation with him last night on the Subject of Tetarapah Moodillees Offers, for renting the Tinnevelly Country, gave him to understand that the Nabob is very averse to accepting those Offers, not chusing to part with the Management of that Country out of his own hands, and that he believ'd the Nabob would rather chuse to keep the Country himself, and give Security to the Company for five and a half Lacks out of the Rents being the Same we should receive from Moodillee.

If the Country can be dispos'd of equally to the Advantage of the Company, with the Approbation of the Nabob, the Committee would much rather fall into that Method than do any thing disagreable to him It is accordingly Agreed to write the Nabob conformably to the Minutes of yesterday, but leaving it finally to his Choice either to accept Tetarapah Moodillee's Offer, or to keep the Country in his own hands, giving Security to the Company by Bills on the Soucars for five and a half Lack of Rupees.

And Moodillee being in Attendance is desir'd to wait the Nabob's Answer.

Shroff Linga Chitty Security for Royal Punt Renter of Terpasore, Appazey Ninar Renter of the two Conjeverams and Malchery, and Pushpenada Ninar Renter of Tervatore now offers Payment of the following Sums in further part of the Four

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 1756.*—— [12TH.]

Lack of Rupees due the 1st Instant out of the Eight Lack assign'd by the Nabob to the Company from the Rents of the Arcot Countries, particulars enter'd in the Minutes of Committee the 8th October last.

Payments offer'd by Linga Chitty Vizt.

On account of Royal Punt Renter of Terpasore Pagodas 20,000 valued @ 375 Rups. ℔ 100 Pags. being in part of 25,000 Pagodas due from him on account of this first Payment.		75000
On Account of Appazey Ninar Renter of the two Conjeverams and Malchery		57000
On Account of Pushpenada Ninar Renter of Tervatore Country		24000
being the half of their respective Obligations & in full of what is due from them on account of this first payment.	In all Rs.	156,000

Arcot Rupees one hundred & fifty Six thousand.

Order'd that Report be made thereof to the President & Council that they may give Directions for the Receipt of the said Money.

And the President also produces the following Bills given him by the underwritten Persons in further Part of the four Lack beforemention'd.

Four Bills on Buckanjee Cassedos's Ducan or house Vizt.

On Account of Hamedally Cawn Renter of Condaporum Ponna &ca.

and of Saudetmund Cawn Killedar of Cavrepauck

1 Bill payable 3d June for	45000		
1 Do. ... 10 ... Do.	12208		
		Arcot Rups	57,208

On Account of Mustead Cawn, Renter of Solangavaram &ca Countries

1 Bill payable 6 June for	40000		
1 Do. ... 10 Do.	2042		
–	... ...		42,042
4 Bills	... Arcot Rupees.		99,250

Abstract of the Receipts in part of the four Lack to this day

Cash		
13th Apl.	4000	
12 May.	156000	
		160,000
Bills		
26 Apl.	122000	
12 May.	99250	
		221,250
Reced in part		381,250
Remaining due from Linga Chitty on acct. of Royal Punt Renter of Terpasore.		
5000 Ps. valued at 375 Rs. ℔ 100 Pags.		18,750
		400,000

Ninety nine thousand, two hundred and fifty being the half of their Respective Obligations and in full of what is due from them on account of this first payment.

Order'd that Report be made thereof to the President and Council, that they may give Directions for the Disposal of the said Bills.

GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
AR. WYNCH.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.
ROBT. PALK.

D. & P. 1756—43

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[16TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 1756.*——

Late this Evening the President receiv'd Advice from Mr Starke of the Arrival of Admiral Watson with his Majesty's Ships Kent, Cumberland, Tiger and Salisbury in Fort St. David Road the 14th Instant.

At the same time came in Letters from Admiral Watson dated 14th May, and Robert Clive Esqr., dated 13th May accompanied with a large Packet from the Select Committee of Bombay.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

MONDAY THE 17TH.

GEORGE PIGOT ESQR. GOVERNOR PRESIDENT
STRINGER LAWRENCE — HENRY POWNEY
ROBERT ORME — ALEXANDER WYNCH
WILLIAM PERCEVAL — ROBERT PALK.

The Packet receiv'd from the Select Committee of Bombay by his Majesty's Ship Kent containing Copies of the Instructions Sent us on the Dodington from the Secret Committee of the East India Company, it is Agreed to meet to-morrow purposely for the Perusal of them, and Order'd that the Proceedings which may be had thereon be enter'd in the Book of Private Committees.

The following Letter from Rear Admiral Watson Read.

TO THE PRESIDENT AND COUNCIL OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

Gentlemen

I have receiv'd your favor of the 14th April informing me of such Intelligence as had then reach'd you from Europe from which I judge this Settlement to be the properest Station for his Majesty's Squadron to be at, untill I receive further Advices from Europe for my future Conduct which I hope are arriv'd in the Delawar, as Captain Smith acquaints me there are Letters arrived for me, which, I beg the favor you will immediately dispatch to me by the Safest Conveyance.

When I left Bombay which was the 27th April they had heard nothing from Europe but were daily in expectation of a Ship from Bussorah.

As it seems more than probable that we shall now enter into a War with France, I am sorry the three Companies of the King's Train are left at Bombay as I think they might be much more advantageously employ'd on this Coast, and indeed that was my Opinion when I left Bombay.

The Squadron being in want of Bread I have order'd Captain Smith to take on Board as much as he possibly can, and make the best of his way to join me here, I shall be obliged if you will give him all the assistance you can in getting it on board.

I beg leave to return you my sincere thanks for your Congratulations on my Success against Gheria and am

Gentlemen

Your most Obedient humble Servant

Kent — CHARLES WATSON.

Fort St. David Road
14th May 1756.

Order'd that a Letter be wrote to Admiral Watson to acknowledge the Receipt of his and to congratulate him on his Safe Arrival with his Majesty's Squadron at Fort St. David.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 1756.*—— [17TH.]

Letter from Robert Clive Esqr. read as follows.

To the Hoñble George Pigot Esqr. Presid^t. & Govr.
&c^a. Gentlemen of the Committee at Fort S^t. George.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

I was honor'd with your favor dated 24th January 1756 upon my return from Ghereah, and was in hopes a Committee would have been held time enough for me to have sent an answer thereto by one of the late Conveyances, but no Committee being held will I hope excuse me to your Honor &c^a. for not acknowledging the Receipt of your Letter before.

The Committee of Bombay have sent on board the Kent a Packet containing Duplicates of the Letters Papers &c^a sent ℔ Dodington which I have desired may be forwarded by the first safe Sea Conveyance not judging it prudent to trust it by Land. M^r. Starke informs me the Success Galley will sail in two or three days for Madras which I think will be a proper Opportunity and on which Ship I purpose continuing my passage for Fort St George.

I have likewise receiv'd your Honor &c^a's Favor of the 14th April, The Committee of Bombay to whose Letter I must beg leave to refer your Honor &c^a will acquaint you with their reasons for not sending round the King's Troops. I am with Respect Honble Sir & Sirs

Fort S^t. David — Your most Obedient, humble Servant
13th May 1756. — Robert Clive.

As we may expect to See M^r. Clive in two or three days it is unnecessary to write any answer to his above Letter.

Receiv'd the following Letter from Richard Starke Esqr.

To the Hoñble the President and Governor
& the Gentlemen for conducting Country Affairs.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

I have receiv'd your Favor of the 7th Instant and shall observe the Method you have been pleased to prescribe with regard to entertaining Men in the Military. I have deliver'd a Copy of your Order relating thereto to our Military Paymaster, and directed him to take particular care that the Payrolls are made out conformably to the Regulations, and that in all the other Business under his Management, the Rules therein laid down are punctually observ'd.

Inclos'd is the General Account of Disbursements for the King's Troops for March 1756 with Copies of Vouchers, as also a Paper deliver'd me by Captain Pascal in consequence of an Order I gave him, which I flatter myself will fully prove that the four Men I advised the President the 30th Ultimo were deserted from hence are actually detain'd at Pondichery.

When Lieutenant Hume arrives, M^r. Call shall accompany him to Deve Cotah. I am with respect Hoñble Sir & Sirs Your most Obed^t humble Servant

Fort St David
13th May 1756. — Richd Starke.

William White European Centinel in my Company informs me that when he was at Pondichery he saw John Goodblood a Deserter from my Company, and then in the English Company; who told him that John Franks and John Andrews were in the same Company with him, and moreover declares that Serjeant Harris formerly in our Service assur'd him that the two above Men were actually in Pondichery, and that the reason of their being detain'd was that they had formerly deserted to the French and had taken Service.

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[17ᵗʰ] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 1756.*——

Ralph Coarser declares that Thomas Bromage formely in our Service assur'd him that Goodblood, Franks, Brazier and Andrews, were at that time in the French Service and in the English Company only that Brazier had been lately sent to Villenoor Fort with some Portugueze Merchant or Writer, moreover that he saw him very well drest and a Silver Watch in his Pocket and that the day he Coarser came away Brazier sent him word he would call and see him.

A French Deserter arrived here and immediately return'd declares that some few days past two Europeans from this Place were immediately cloathed in French Regimentals.

Two Deserters from this Garrison and this day Declare that the Reason of their going off was that they knew the French entertain'd our People.

N.B.—Goodblood and Andrews deserted the beginning of December, Brazier and Franks the latter end of April. All from this Place and my Company.

Fort Sᵗ David.
12 May 1756. EDMUND PASCAL.

Order'd that the account Disbursements of the Regiment for the Month of March amounting to Pagodas one thousand, eight hundred and thirty nine, thirteen fanams and forty five Cash (1839–13–45) be enter'd in the Book kept for that purpose.

And Agreed that a Copy of the Informations taken by Captain Pascal concerning Deserters detain'd at Pondichery be transmitted to Mʳ. DeLeyrit and Restitution demanded of the four Men therein mention'd namely, John Goodblood, John Franks, John Andrews and Brazier.

The following Letter from Captain Caillaud Read.

To THE HOÑBLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQᴿ. PRESIDENT AND GOVERNOR &Cᴬ. GENTLEMEN OF THE COMMITTEE AT MADRAS.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

No. 28. The last Letter I had the honor of addressing you, was dated the 26ᵗʰ of April informing you of Captain Callender's March, I fear that I made a mistake in the Number of my last, marking it 28 instead of 27 which I hope you will please to excuse.

It has unluckily fell out that during the absence of Mʳ Stewart the Surgeons Mate Doctor Wilson was taken ill, upon which I took the liberty of sending Orders to Mʳ. Stewart, immediately on the arrival of the Party at Deve Cotah to return to this Garrison with all Expedition, As at present the Sick were without Attendance. Mʳ. Wilson is however out of Danger, and recovers very fast.

As the Strength of my Garrison now will admit I believe of no more Detachments, I propose with your approbation to lessen the Number of Lascars, & reduce them to the common Complement for this Fort of 100, which is Sufficient for their work in it, Those I discharge may be sent down with Certificates of their Service here and if wanted at any of the Settlements, taken into Pay there, at a less Expence than here, with Pay and Batta. I shall carefully examine all the other Articles that upon the same Account of the Garrison being lessen'd may admit of retrenching.

I have now in the Magazine near 60,000 Rupees worth of Paddy and it still comes in every day. By the end of the Year I hope the whole will be compleated. If it is not it is really the Killedars fault; But with your leave he shall be answerable for it out of his own Magazines which are pretty full, and over which I have a watch that not a Grain shall be Sold untill the Quota to the Company is first made up.

May I beg leave to remind you Gentlemen of the two French Deserters, and one Regan deserted from the Bombay Detachment, all here confin'd untill I receive your Orders.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 1756.*—— [17TH.]

I transmitted in my last the Translation of a Letter receiv'd from the French Commissary at Seringham about the Subsistence of their Prisoners here, as also a Copy of my Answer. He has this day inform'd me that Affair is over, and that the Prisoners are to be paid as usual.

Inclos'd I have the honor of sending the Monthly Returns, and Account of Disbursements for this Garrison as also a return of the present Effective State of the Garrison. I am with great Respect Honble Sir & Sirs Your most Obedt. & faithful Servant

Trichenopoly
3d May 1756. JNO. CAILLAUD.

Order'd that the Two French Deserters confin'd at Trichenopoly be return'd to Syringham, altho Mr. Maisin when Commandant there refused to deliver up a Man who deserted from us in the same Circumstances, but we are willing by such a Conduct to deprive Mr. De Leyrit of even the Slightest Pretence of Reason for detaining any of our People. The Committee approve of Captain Caillaud's endeavors to retrench the Expence of the Garrison of Trichenopoly in every Article that will admit of it, and it is Agreed to direct him to Send down all the Supernumerary Lascars to Deve Cotah giving Certificates to Such of them as he has found to be Good Men.

Country Letters Nos. 118, 119, 120 & 121 Read.

No. 118 from Balazarow desiring that we will not molest the Districts of Murtazally Cawn Killedar of Veloor.

Agreed to write Balazarow in answer that we do not interfere any further in the Management of the Affairs of the Province than we are desir'd by the Nabob taking only such Steps as he represents to be for the Circar's Benefit, and that we doubt not He (the Nabob) will be able to give Satisfactory Reasons for his late Conduct with regard to Murtaz ally Cawn. Order'd accordingly that a Copy of Balazarow's Letter and our answer be transmitted to the Nabob.

No. 119 is a Paper of News from Salabat Jung's Camp giving an account of the Transactions of the united Armies of Salabat Jung, and Balazarow before the Fort of Savanore where having made a Breach, Abdul Hakeem Cawn the Killedar and Morarow agreed to pay eleven Lacks of Rupees upon which Terms an Accommodation was concluded. If Balazarow remains in the Disposition some Circumstances of this Paper shew him to have been in at that time it may be hop'd the French will Soon lose part of their Influence over Salabat Jung's Person and Government.

No. 120 from the Nabob with Copies of Letters address'd to him by Mohofoz Cawn at Tinnevelly & Danishmend Cawn at Madura containing Complaints of Mahomed Ussof Cawn the Nellour Subedar's arrogating unto himself the Government of the Countries, founded on his having Sent his Deputies towards Madura & Nademundalum to take upon them the Management.

The Committee judge that this Complaint has arisen from Usoof Cawn's having placed Amuldars for the Management of the Nademundalum Districts which he conquer'd lately and where it was absolutely necessary for him to leave some of his own People in the Direction, as there were none of the Nabob's. Perhaps also he may have applied to Mohofoz Cawn in the Name of the Company for half the Revenues of all the Districts, which may have render'd him Disagreable to Mahofoz Cawn, but Usoof Cawn ought not to be blam'd on that Account as it is conformable to the Instructions given him, and to the Agreement we made with the Nabob, when first Colonel Heron march'd into those Countries. Agreed to write the Nabob an answer conformable to our above Sentiments remarking in General that we look upon Mahomed Usoof Cawn as a faithful Servant both to him and us.

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[17TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 1756.*——

N°. 121 From Nizar Mahomed Cawn Killedar of Chetteput, complaining that the Nabob has Sent an Order on him for five thousand (5000) Rupees, and requir'd him also to Settle the Affair of the Moratta Pet (or Tribute) Representing that he has no Money to answer the said Demands and desiring therefore that the President will write to the Nabob "not to demand the Moratta Pet &c^a. of him at present, that after the Peace of the Country is Settled he will act according as others do.

Altho we are of Opinion the Killedar of Chetteput ought to pay the Customary Tribute to the Nabob yet as we are well convinced it is the Resolution of that Man not to part with any thing without being forc'd to it we think it best to forbear making any Demand on him untill there shall be an Army ready to back the Demand. Agreed accordingly to advise the Nabob not to trouble the Killedar of Chetteput at present, and to acquaint the Killedar that we have agreable to his Request wrote to the Nabob in his Behalf.

GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
A^R. WYNCH.
WILL^M. PERCEVAL.
ROB^T. PALK.

Sent the following Letter to Rear Admiral Watson pursuant to the Resolution of the foregoing Committee.

To CHARLES WATSON ESQ^R. REAR ADMIRAL OF THE RED
& COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF HIS MAJESTY'S SQUADRON
IN THE EAST INDIES.

Sir

We are favour'd with your Letter dated the 14th of this Month, and beg leave to congratulate you on your Safe Arrival with his Majesty's Squadron at Fort S^t. David. We have given Directions that the best Conveniencies the Place affords be furnish'd to You and the Gentlemen of the Squadron, and if there is any thing further which it is in our Power to contribute be assur'd Sir, we shall most chearfully do it upon the first Notice.

We have given Captain Smith every Assistance requisite towards the Speedy Dispatch of the Bridgwater, and we believe he purposes to Sail the day after to-morrow. This Gentleman has been so obliging as to carry some Gunpowder for the use of the Garrison of Fort S^t. David.

Agreable to what we had the honor to write you last Lieutenant Hume was the Bearer of the Publick Letters directed to You and M^r. Pocock, from the Admiralty. He left this Place the 14th. in the morning and we hope has reach'd you before now.

It would have given us Pleasure if the Gentlemen at Bombay had thought proper to have sent us the three Companies of the King's Train as we judge with you from the Probability there is of a War that we are most likely to have occasion for them. We are Sir Your most Obedient humble Servants GEORGE PIGOT—STRINGER LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY—ROBERT ORME—ALEXANDER WYNCH—WILL^M. PERCEVAL—ROBERT PALK.

Fort S^t. George.
17th May 1756.

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——*FORT ST· GEORGE, MAY 1756.*—— [19TH.]

Sent the following Letters to M^r· Starke & Captn Caillaud pursuant to the Resolutions of last Committee.

To RICHARD STARKE ESQ^R·
DEPUTY GOVERNOR OF FORT S^T· DAVID.

Sir

We have receiv'd your Letter of the 13th with the Account of Disbursements for the Regiment and Copies of the Vouchers for the Month of March last.

You may give the Subedar Keyser Jing a Piece of Broad Cloth or some Compliment of that kind, as an Encouragement for his Diligence in training the Sepoys; we do not approve of fixing an extraordinary Allowance on him as it would be making a bad Precedent. The Proper Pay of the Colourmen is only Six Rupees a month you will therefore make no Alteration our Intention being to reduce them to Six wherever they now receive more. We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants

Fort S^t· George
19th May 1756.

GEORGE PIGOT &C^a COMMITTEE.

To CAPTAIN JOHN CAILLAUD.

Sir

We have received your Letter N^o· 28 dated the 3^d Instant. Notwithstanding our Orders of the 7th You have our Permission to keep M^r· Steward with you as M^r· Wilson's State of Health is So indifferent. No. 31.

We approve much of your Intention to retrench all Expences as far as the Service will admit, to Such of the Reduc'd Lascars as you have found to be Good Men, give Certificates and Send them to Deve Cotah where they will either be employ'd or receive further Orders.

We have already given you our Directions concerning the Deserter return'd from Tanjour. You may deliver up the other two Men to the French Commandant and Secure by the Method you recommend the delivery of the Remainder of the Grain to be lodg'd in your Magazines by the Killedar. We are Sir Your most Obed^t· Servants

GEO PIGOT &C^A COMMITTEE.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

GEORGE PIGOT ESQ^R GOVERNOR PRESIDENT		THURSDAY THE 20TH.
STRINGER LAWRENCE	HENRY POWNEY	
ROBERT ORME	ALEX^R WYNCH	
WILLIAM PERCEVAL	ROBERT PALK.	

The following Letter from the Deputy Governor & Council of Fort S^t· David with the Several Papers therein refer'd to, Read.

To THE HOÑBLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQ^R· PRESIDENT AND GOVERNOR
& THE REST OF THE GENTLEMEN OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE
AT FORT S^T· GEORGE.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

Pursuant to your Orders We have purchas'd the Elizabeth and Norwood's Cargoes of Rice amounting to one hundred ten Garse; greatest part of which is lodg'd in the Fort, and upon occasion we imagine the whole may. We have also

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[20TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 1756.*——

laid in Twenty Garse of Paddy and contracted for twenty Garce more, to be deliver'd in Twenty five days, and we have reason to believe more may be procur'd if you judge it necessary.

As Major Kilpatrick set out for Madras before your favor of the 14th Ultimo arrived, We directed Captains Pascal and D'Illens to accompany Mr. Call in a general Review of the Situation of the Fort, as to Defence, & to make a Report thereof, as also what further Supplies of Stores were requisite in consequence of which they have given in the accompanying Letter and Abstract of Stores now in Garrison and what more are wanted. We have only to observe on it that we have Order'd the damaged Gunpowder to be remade, and are using all proper Measures to encrease the Quantity made Monthly at the Powder House, but we are afraid it will not much exceed the necessary Expence of the Garrison.

We have applied to Mr. Call for a General Plan of the Fort and Outworks; and a Description of the Mines, but you will observe by the enclosed Copy of a Letter from him; that he cannot furnish us with one unless he is assisted in the drawing part. We must do Mr. Call the justice to say that what he alledges in regard to his whole Attention being taken up with the Works and Carpenters Yard is very true and We have long thought he was much in want of Assistants in both Branches. and as a General Plan of the Fort is at this time immediately necessary, We hope if possible you will send him an Assistant Speedily.

We also enclose you a Calculate of Provisions to sustain a Seige of Six Months, supposing the Fort to have its proper Garrison of 500 Europeans 800 or 1000 Sepoys & 500 Lascars, Cooleys and Artificers, in all 2000 Souls. Grain we have already a sufficient Quantity; and have wrote to Deve Cotah for Firewood, but we shall not lay in any of the other Articles without your express Directions, and here We cannot help taking the Liberty to observe to you that our Garrison at present is extremely Weak both in Men & Officers particularly, the Artillery and weak as it is we are obliged to Divide it with Cuddalore.

We have Station'd Cattamarans off the Road with the Caution to the Commander of any English Ship or Vessel, and we shall not fail when the Admiral appears in Sight to Send off your Letter and the best Intelligence we ca[n] procure from Pondichery. Your Letter to Col. Clive shall be deliver'd on his Arrival.

By the last Advice from Chellumbrum the Garrison consisted of 60 Europeans & 200 Sepoys.

As we cannot procure Cow-skin Coverings for the Firelocks near so cheap as they are made at Madr[as.] We request you will furnish with 3000 as soon as possible. We are with respect

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obedient humble Servants

RICHD. STARKE—HUGH NORRIS—RICHD. FAIRFIELD—ROBT. SLOPER—CHARLES TURNER.

Fort St. David
9th May 1756.

Of the Several Articles mention'd in the Calculate of Provisions only the following appear to us necessary to be laid in for a Seige, Rice and Paddy, Salt Beef, some live Cattle, Batavia Arrack, Madeira Wine, and a Quantity of Firewood.

The Rice & Paddy they have already purchas'd and contracted for is Sufficient for the Garrison they mention (consisting in all of two thousand Souls) for Six Months.

The Salt Beef prepar'd in this Country decays so Soon that it turns out extremely expensive, and as the Store Admiral Watson is provided with for the use of his Majesty's Ships is so large that he constantly keeps a Quantity lodg'd in

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 1756.*—— [illegible]

Godowns on Shore, the President is desired to request of the Admiral to keep a part in Fort St David, the which may be made use of in Case of a Seige to be then paid for by the Company who will be Subject in the mean time to no Risque or Charge.

Live Cattle may be drove in from about the Bounds upon any Emergency.

Arrack may also upon such an Occasion be call'd in, and bought from the Private Dealers within the Bounds; the Waste upon this Article being unavoidably very considerable, we would avoid laying it in upon the Company's account.

Madeira Wine there is at present none in our Godowns. If the Ship of this Season Should call at Fort St David; the Gentlemen there may make use of the Liberty given them by the President and Council to land the Quantity wanted there. If the Ship should come Directly hither the usual Supply will be sent as Soon as possible to St David.

Firewood being an Article not Subject to Waste & of which a large Quantity will be necessary it is Agreed to direct the Deputy Governor and Council to lay in immediately a Store proportionable to the Calculate of Provisions.

The Account of Military Stores now at Fort St David, and the List of what more are wanting being next examin'd it appears that in That, as well as most of our other Garrisons, the Quantities of Military Stores are not properly assorted, and Arranged as the Number of Shot proportionably to the Number of Guns, of the same Size &c^{a}. It is Order'd therefore that one General Return be form'd from the Lists of Stores remaining in the Several Garrisons, and a proper Division made. In the mean time the Deputy Governor and Council of Fort St David may Supply themselves out of such of the Europe Ships as may call there with the Articles they stand most in need of. With regard to Gunpowder the Smallness of our own Store will not enable us to Send them any Supply, It is thought necessary therefore to Direct them to use their Endeavors to increase the Quantity made in those Bounds and to be as frugal as possible in the Expence of it, observing always to employ the worst for Salutes.

Order'd that Mr Conradi who has for two Years practis'd Drawing under the Engineer here, proceed immediately to Fort S^{t}. David to assist M^{r}. Call in that Branch of his Business.

And as the President and Council have given Directions to land the Military at Fort S^{t}. David from all the Europe Ships that may touch there, it is likely the Garrison will receive a Sufficient Supply by that means.

The Colourmen belonging to the Sepoy Companies having receiv'd in some of the Garrisons Six Rupees a Month in others Eight, it is Agreed that in future they be every where paid only Six, and that an Order to that Effect be dispatch'd immediately to each Garrison.

The following Letter from Captain Lee Read.

To the Hoñble George Pigot Esq President and Governor
&c^{a} Gentlemen of the Committee of Correspondence.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

I receiv'd the honor of your Letter of the 7th Ins^{t} this morning, and immediately sent away one of the three Pounders with Ammunition and Stores for Carongoly, agreable to your Orders; I gave them Directions to go by Changleput & wrote Captain Polier to desire he would forward them & give an additional Escort if he thought any necessary.

On account of the Rains some days past the Veloor People have continued very quiet, a large number of Sepoys & Peons 700 Horse and 2 Guns are about 2 Corse from Agerum. I shall take particular Care to get good Intelligence and prevent their retaking any of the Districts possess'd by the Nabob. A Detachment of our Sepoys have stopp'd two Bullocks loaded with Flints containing 10,000 going from Pondichery Veloor; I have wrote the Subedar to send them here till I receive your Orders.

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[20th.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 1756.*——

The Draft Bullocks set out this morning for Madras, to bring up the Six Pounders which as Soon as I receive, shall send down the Old ones agreable to your Instructions.

I have wrote to Bommerauze again in the strongest Terms; he has sent to know if I would accept of part of the Money, and a Note bearing Interest for the remainder. I told him to Send here his Vackeel immediately with all the ready Money he could pay, and I would then give him an answer, as I could not make any other Agreement till I knew what part of the Money he would pay. The Man He sent to me has promised He will comply with this and return immediately with the Vackeel and pay down at least half the Sum. I am with the greatest Respect Honble Sir & Sirs Your most Obliged & most Obedt. Servant

Arcot
May 11th. 1756. WILLIAM LEE.

Although Mr. De Leyrit's Supplying Murtaz ally Cawn with Flints is a Proof that he encourages him to commit Disorders yet as the Stopping the two Bullocks mention'd in Captain Lee's Letter may be made a Plea for intercepting Some Stores of ours it is Agreed to Direct him to let the Bullocks pass.

A Letter from Mr. Maunsel Commissary at Camp read advising that he has received Seven thousand two hundred and Eighty (7280) Poliput Pagodas out of the Eight thousand for which Meermalong was Security on Account of Bommerauze Pollygar, and that the Present Exchange of those Pagodas is 130$\frac{1}{8}$ for 100 Star Pagodas; Requesting therefore Directions for the Disposal of the Money.

Order'd that the Polliput Pagodas be exchanged for Star at the most advantageous Rate; that Mr Maunsel credit Mr Commissary Orme for the produce and keep it for the Payment of the Troops, the Risque of remitting the Money hither, and Sending out a Supply for the Occasions of the Camp being Saved by that Means. Order'd also that Report be made hereof to the President and Council that they may be enabled to regulate their Treasury accounts conformably.

Letters from the Commissaries at Madarantegum dated the 8th and 10th Instant read as Enter'd No. 22 and No. 23 in the Book of their Proceedings giving an Account of the violent Measures taken by Mr Durocher, the French Commissary to imprint an awe of his Authority upon the Minds of the Inhabitants Stopping their Goods in the High Road preventing by Force the Cutting of the Grain which is Ripe and Spoiling on the Ground, and depriving them of the use of even the common Garden Greens, the daily and almost only food of the poor People. For Proof the Commissaries, transmit three Papers which are enter'd after their abovemention'd Letters, One is an Edict publish'd by Mr Durocher throughout the Contested Districts in which he compares his *Hands to Clouds which are able to pour down Rain for the good of every one and likewise to hurl down Thunder bolts on the heads of the Wicked.* The Second is a Declaration Sign'd by two Merchants whose Oxen loaded with Salt were Stopp'd by the French Amuldar, the Oxen Sent with Paddy to Pondichery & the Bags of Salt expos'd in the Open Field for five or Six days by which a great part of the Salt was Damaged and they were obliged to Sell it for half Price—And the Third is a Declaration Sign'd by two head Inhabitants of the Termaporam Magan representing that the French keep a Guard of Sepoys in every Village and prevent the People from gathering even the most common Greens, which two Inhabitants came in Person to Madras & Testified in presence of the President the Truth of their Declaration imploring Relief from the Misery they labour under.

Agreed to send Copies of the three beforemention'd Papers to Mr De Leyrit with a Letter acquainting him that if he does not immediately Resolve upon some Method of putting an End to the Excesses committed by his People in the Contested Districts, we shall be oblig'd to augment our Force there and take Measures for relieving the Inhabitants from the Oppression they Labour under.

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——*FORT ST· GEORGE, MAY 1756.*—— [20ma.]

And that a Copy of our Representation to Mr De Leyrit be transmitted to the Commissaries with a Letter acquainting them that we shall reinforce their Numbers, so as, to enable them to repel Force by Force if the French do not Discontinue their Violences.

The Commissary lays before the Committee a Bill from Captain Callendar, for the Charges of marching the Detachment under his Command from Trichenopoly to Devecotah amounting to five hundred & Six Rupees and Eleven Fanams (506–11) concerning the Payment of which he (the Commissary) requests Directions—Captain Callendar having charged fifteen Rupees a day for himself as Commanding Officer of the Army instead of Six as Captain the Commissary is Order'd to Deduct the Overplus of nine Rupees a day and then to discharge the Bill.

There appearing in the Said Bill a Charge of Bullocks at the same time that there are Bullocks constantly maintain'd at Trichenopoly for the Company's Service It is Agreed to write Captain Caillaud that he is on all Occasions to make use of those Bullocks instead of hiring fresh ones.

Shroff Linga Chitty Security for Royal Punt Renter of Terpasore now offers Payment of five thousand Pagodas, which valued at the Rate of three hundred & Seventy five Rupees for a hundred Pagodas, make Rupees eighteen thousand Seven hundred & fifty (18,750) in full of the four Lack due the 1st Instant.

See the minutes of Committee held the 12th Inst.

Order'd that Report be made to the President and Council that they may give Directions for the Receipt of the Money.

GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
AR. WYNCH.
WILLM· PERCEVAL.
ROBT· PALK.

Sent the following Letters to Richard Starke Esqr Deputy Governor &c· Council of Fort St David, Captn Caillaud & Captain Lee pursuant to the Resolutions of the foregoing Committee. [21ma.]

To RICHARD STARKE ESQR DEPUTY GOVERNOR
&cA COUNCIL OF FORT ST DAVID.

Gentlemen

We have had under Consideration your Letter of the 9th May with the Several Papers transmitted us with it.

The Quantity of Rice and Paddy you mention to have purchased and contracted for if Sufficient for the Garrison you propose for six months, you need not therefore lay in any more. You are to be particularly attentive to the care of your Grain so as to preserve it from Damage, Waste or Pilferage, and none of it is to be used without our express Permission. Altho we would not have the Company burthen'd with a larger Quantity upon their hands yet we recommend to you to encourage the Merchants, Buzzar People and other Inhabitants to purchase all that is brought into the Place in order to guard against a future Scarcity.

We have requested of Admiral Watson to lodge a part of the Salt Beef in Store for the Squadron at Fort St· David, the which may be made use of in case of a Seige, and the Company Subject in the mean time to no Charge.

The Loss by laying in Arrack is also so considerable that we think it should be avoided as long as possible. Upon an Emergency you may call into the Fort whatever Arrack is in the Bounds which we doubt not [will] always be Sufficient for your Garrison.

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[21st.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 1756.*——

Live Cattle may be drove in, from about [the] Bounds whenever there shall be occasion.

Madeira Wine you have Liberty from the President and Council to land if the Ship should call at S^{t}· David—If not, you will be supplied from hence.

You are immediately to lay in a Sufficient Quantity of Firewood for the Garrison propos'd in your Letter for Six Months; and this is all we think necessary at this time, In case of an actual War and a Probability of an Attack upon St David, we Shall give Directions concerning some few other Articles of your Indent.

We have examin'd the account of Military Stores remaining and wanting, and find that in yours as well as in most other of our Garrisons, the Quantities and Sorts are not at all proportion'd to their Several Uses, as the Number of Shot to the number of Guns of the Same Size &c^{a} we have order'd therefore one General Return to be made of the whole from which we shall form a proper Distribution. You may however in the mean time set about making the Carriages indented for, and land from any of the Europe Ships that may touch at S^{t}· David the Stores you are in want of. We expect from Messrs· Call and Hume particular Information what Stores are Superfluous and what others are wanted at Deve Cotah, conformably to which we shall give Directions concerning the Mortars & Carriages mention'd in the Letter address'd to you by Messrs· Pascal, D'illens and Call.

We are as yet unable to supply you with any Gunpowder, your utmost Diligence must therefore be employ'd to encrease the Quantity made at your Place & the greatest Frugality in the Expence of it, remarking always that your worst Powder is to be used for Saluting.

We have directed M^{r}· Conradi who is well practised in Drawing to proceed immediately for Fort St David to act only as an Engineer under Mr Call, & as you have Orders from the President and Council to land the Military from any Europe Ships that may call at St David, It is probable your Garrison will be Sufficiently increased by that means.

We find it difficult to Supply this, and the other Garrisons with the number requir'd of Cow Skin Coverings, we imagine the Number of Cattle kill'd daily for the Squadron will enable you at this time to provide the Quantity wanted at your Place at a reasonable Rate.

We inclose a List of the Pay of the Colourmen &c^{a} of the Sepoy Companies from which you are to fill up the Blanks in the Second Page of the Book of Military Regulations and observe to pay those People accordingly. We are Gentlemen Your most Obedient Servants GEORGE PIGOT—STRINGER LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY—ROB^{T}· ORME—ALEXANDER WYNCH—WILL^{M}· PERCEVAL—ROB^{T}· PALK.

Fort S^{t}· George
21 May 1756.

To CAPTAIN CAILLAUD.

Sir

No. 32. We inclose a List of the Pay of the Colourmen &c^{a} of the Seapoy Companies, from which you are to fill up the Blanks in the Second Page of the Book of Military Regulations, and observe to pay those People accordingly.

We have receiv'd a Bill from Captn Callendar for the Expences of the Detachment on the Road in which there is a Charge of Bullocks, as there are some constantly kept on the Company's Account at Trichenopoly you should have Sent them with Captain Callendar & saved this Charge. We are Sir Your most Obedient Servants GEORGE PIGOT—STRINGER LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY—ROBERT ORME—ALEX^{R} WYNCH—WILLIAM PERCEVAL—ROBERT PALK.

Fort St George
21 May 1756.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 1756.*—— [21ST.]

To CAPTAIN LEE.

Sir

We have receiv'd your Letters dated the 4th & 11th of this Month. Let the Bullocks loaded with Flints proceed on their Journey.

We Should be glad to hear of the Payment of any part of Bommerauze's Cadjan Note, but we would not have you take his Interest Note, allowing a further Trust because it is high time, as you may tell him, the whole was Discharged.

We inclose a List of the Pay of the Colour Men &c^{a} of the Sepoy Companies from which you are to fill up the Blanks in the Second Page of the Book of Military Regulations and observe to pay those People accordingly. We are Sir Your most Obed^{t}. Servants

Fort St George
21st May 1756.

GEORGE PIGOT &C^{A} COMMITTEE.

This Evening arrived Robert Clive Esqr. from Bombay last from Fort St David. 22D.

Sent a Letter of this date from the President to M^{r}. DeLeyrit as enter'd in the French Correspondence N°. 31 on the Subject of the Affairs of the Contested Districts mention'd in last Committee and the Deserters mention'd in Committee of the 17th Instant. 25TH.

AT A COMMITTEE.

Present

GEORGE PIGOT ESQ^{R} GOVERNOR PRESIDENT
ROBERT CLIVE ESQ^{R} takes his Seat, the Oath of Secrecy enter'd in these Minutes the 2^{d} July last having been first administer'd to him by the President.
STRINGER LAWRENCE — HENRY POWNEY
ROBERT ORME — ALEXANDER WYNCH
WILLIAM PERCEVAL — ROBERT PALK.

WEDNESDAY 26 MAY

Letter receiv'd late last Night from the Commissaries at Madarantegum dated 24th Inst^{t}. as enter'd N°. 25 in the Book of their Proceedings Read inclosing three Papers containing their Remarks and Replies to the Pieces accompanying M^{r} DeLeyrit's Letter of the 31st March last, and giving an Account of a fresh Act of Violence committed by the French Troops in the Contested Districts the 24th Instant in the Morning before Day break. The Detail of this Fact as related by our Commissaries is as follows. "Rama Chunda Reddy Inhabitant of Tirmaporam who was lately at "Madras, (and gave the Declaration mention'd in last Committee) went the 22^{d} "Instant to Acherevaucom where immediately some French Peons were Sent to Seize "him, On our Perpatim's opposing his being carried away by Force, Eighty French "Peons Successively assembled which occasion'd our Ameen and Peons likewise to "assemble in the same Place, where they contended for two days, the French to "carry away Rama Chunda Reddy by Force and our People to hinder it, This "Morning (the 24th, a Party of one hundred and fifty Seapoys who were quarter'd at "Mungil (a neighbouring French Village) arriv'd at Acherevaucom before Day "break, the whole Body fir'd upon our People, kill'd one of our Peons with a double "Shott and then fell upon the Rest (who had no Firearms to resist such a Treachery) "treated them cruelly, took Rama Chunda Reddy and Several of our Substitutes, "and carried them by force away. The Dead Corps of our Peon was brought here "and expos'd before our Eyes, which after having Seen and examin'd we order'd to "be buried."

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[26TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 1756.*——

The Truth of this Detail is Supported by a Deposition taken by the Killedar of Carongoly in presence of a Multitude of People who were Eye witnesses of the whole Affair; This Deposition is enter'd in the Book of Proceedings of the Commissaries after their Letter beforemention'd.

This Fact, if true, with all its Circumstances Set forth in our Commissaries Letter and the Deposition accompanying it, is from the Beginning to the End, both in Design and Execution an open Act of Hostility committed against us, by the French, in a Place belonging at least equally to us, Acherevaucom being a Contested Village. Apparently The Design was to Seize Rama Chender Reddy Inhabitant of the Contested Districts, and to shew him some Severe Resentment for having complain'd to us of the Oppressions practis'd by the French throughout the said Districts, in order to Deter others from bringing their Excesses to Light; and this Design they carried into Execution by the violent means above recited, regardless of the Treaties Subsisting between us and indeed of the common Law of Nations.

Such a Conduct on their Part would doubtless Sufficiently authorise any Steps we might take in order to arrive at a just Satisfaction. But as it is not impossible that Mr Durocher the French Commissary may have committed this Rash action without the Orders of his Governor it is Agreed to lay a State of the Fact before Mr De Leyrit demanding immediate Satisfaction adequate to the Nature of the Insult offer'd to our Nation in the Death of a Person employ'd in our Service in the Contested Districts by a Shot from a Body of their armed Sepoys.

And in order as well to promote the giving the Satisfaction requir'd, as to Secure the Persons of our Commissaries and the Company's Property and Authority in the Contested Districts from the Sudden Attacks of the French Sepoys It is Resolv'd to give Directions to Captain Lee, to Send down Captn Gaupp's Company of Swiss from Arcot to Carongoly, to be under the Orders of the Commissaries, to whom it is Agreed to Send a Copy of our Letter to Mr De Leyrit, with Directions to Suspend all the Operations of the Commissaryship untill Satisfaction is given for the late Insult, posting themselves in the mean time either in the Fort of Carongoly, or such other Place as will best enable them to defend our Property and maintain our Authority against any Attempts of the French.

Letter from Captn. Lee read as follows.

To the Honble George Pigot Esqr.

Honble Sir

I received the honor of your Letter of the 17th Instant, and as Lieutenant Preston was much out of Order, and in the Fort, Captain Maskelyne declin'd giving him the charge of the Garrison till he received your farther Instructions.

Two more of the Swiss who deserted in March last are retaken, one of the Prisoners is dead, there are now nine of them in the Guard only one of which belongs to Captain Schaub's Company.

The Payment of Meer Malongs money is compleated, but I fear Bommerauze will not Discharge the Seventy thousand Rupees without he is absolutely forced to it. I am with the greatest Respect Honble Sir Your most Obliged and most Obedt Servant

Camp at Arcot
21st. May 1756.

William Lee.

Order'd that the Ballance of Seven hundred and twenty (720) Polyput Pagodas received from Meermalong on account of Bommerauze Polygar in full of his Security Bond, be dispos'd of at Arcot applied to the Payment of our Troops and reported to the President and Council in like manner as is Directed in last Committee with regard to the former Payment.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 1756.*—— [26m.]

Order'd also that Captain Lee do continue his Endeavors to procure Payment of the Seventy thousand (70,000) Rupees remaining due from Bommerauze on his Cadjan Note.

Agreed further that Captain Lee be directed to Send the Swiss Deserters Spoke of in his Letter under Escort of the Detachment beforemention'd, to Captain Gauppe, who may try as many of them as belong to his own Company; and Send to Changleput those belonging to Captain Polier's & Captn. Schaub's Companies, that Captain Polier may bring them to a Tryal there.

The following Letter from Rear Admiral Watson Read.

To the Honble George Pigot Esqr.
&c.a. Gentlemen of the Select Committee.

Gentlemen

I have the favor of your Letter of the 17th. Instant and am much obliged to you for the Directions you have given for my reception here, and the Gentlemen of the Squadron.

I am sorry to tell you that Mr. Hume is not yet arrived, and of course I have not received my Publick Letters at which I now begin to be uneasy, but I still hope (as I have done for several days) that one day more must bring him here. I am Gentlemen

Fort St. David
20th. May 1756.

Your most Obedient humble Servant
Chas. Watson.

By a Private Letter from Mr Watson to the President of a later Date than the above We have the Satisfaction to find that Lieutenant Hume was Safe arrived with the Admiralty Packets.

Letter from the Nabob as enter'd No. 129 in the Country Correspondence; Read, in answer to what the President last wrote him concerning Tetarapah Moodilley Setting forth that he really does not approve of accepting the offers of that Man without a previous Security given and that he can say nothing to the Proposal of keeping the Country in his own Management on condition of giving Soucar's Security to the Company for five and a half Lack untill he is acquainted with the Opinion of his Brother Mohofoz Cawn, to whom he has wrote on the Subject recommending therefore, that the Determination of the Affair be Suspended untill the Receipt of the Said Answer.

Agreed to wait according to the Nabob's Request; but that he be desired to make known his Resolution to us with all possible Expedition, as the Time of letting out the Countries (the beginning of July) draws near.

Country Letters Nos. 131 & 132 Read, from Mahomed Usof Cawn (the Nellour Subedar) at Tinnevelly; giving an account of some Countries assign'd by Mahofoz Cawn for the Payment of the Company's Sepoys, and under his (the Nellour's) Command, from which Countries nothing can be collected under three or four Months, but he shall endeavor to make them fruitful by encouraging the Inhabitants.

That he applied to Mahofoz Cawn for the Ballance of one hundred, twenty one thousand (121,000) Rupees due from him to the Company but received only Excuses being answer'd that all the Money that had been collected had been disbursed in the Pay of the Troops and that there is nothing left.

Untill a Resolution is made concerning the Offers of Tetarapah Modilley or in what other manner to Settle the Management of the Tinnevelly Country we can only Direct Usof Cawn to continue his Endeavours to preserve the Tranquility, in order that the Inhabitants may be encouraged to return to their Villages & cultivate the Lands, by which means the Revenues will increase.

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[26TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 1756.*——

Order'd that the three Papers containing the Remarks and Replies of our Commissaries to Mr. De Leyrit's Pieces which accompanied his Letter of the 31st. March last, do lye on the Table to be revised and compar'd with Mr. De Leyrit's Said Pieces.

GEORGE PIGOT.
ROBERT CLIVE.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
AR. WYNCH.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.
ROBT. PALK.

Sent a Letter of this date from the President to Mr. De Leyrit pursuant to the Resolutions of the foregoing Committee Enter'd in the French Correspondence No. 32, Also the following Letter to Captain William Lee.

To CAPTAIN WILLIAM LEE.

Sir

The Situation of the Affairs of the Contested Districts making it necessary to augment our Force there we direct that you immediately Detach all the Officers and Men of Captain Gauppe's Company to Carongoly and one Company more of Seapoys if they can possibly be Spar'd under the Conduct of the Commanding Officer of the said Company with Directions to follow the Orders of Captain Gauppe.

Under this Escort you are to Send down all the Swiss Deserters confin'd at Arcot to Capt Gauppe to whom we have given Directions concerning them.

We have order'd Lieutenant Treipsack to proceed to Camp and are

Sir Your most Obedt. Servants

GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
ALEXANDER WYNCH.
WILLIAM PERCEVAL.
ROBERT PALK.

Fort St. George
26 May 1756.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

MONDAY 31ST. MAY

GEORGE PIGOT ESQR. GOVERNOR PRESIDENT
ROBERT CLIVE — STRINGER LAWRENCE
HENRY POWNEY — ROBERT ORME
ALEXANDER WYNCH — WILLIAM PERCEVAL
ROBERT PALK.

Three Country Letters Nos. 136; 137 & 138 Read.

No. 136 from the Nabob inclosing Copy of a Letter he receiv'd from Balazarow in which an account is given of Morarows Submission and the Terms granted to the Fort of Savanore. Balazarow writes that when Security is given for the Money to be paid him he shall march jointly with Salabat Jung to Settle the Affairs of the Carnateck, and concludes with a Request that the Nabob will write to the Governor of Madras, so that an Answer may soon arrive from England to a Letter he (Balazarow) has wrote concerning the taking the Country of Angria and the General of Bombay's possessing himself of a Fort call'd Yeacha * Durg.

* We suppose this to be another Name for Gheria.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 1756.*—— [31a.]

N°. 137 from Balazarow to the President containing a Recital of the Success of his Troops join'd with the English from Bombay against Angria, complaining that the English contrary to the Agreement made possess'd themselves of the Fort of Yeacha Durg, wherefore he has wrote a Letter to the King of England (which was brought by the same Messenger), desiring the President will forward it and Send for an Answer.

And N°. 138, is from the Nabob inclosing the Copy of a Letter from Dobayaram a Man of Distinction in Balazarow's Army to Mahomed Aselim Cawn at Arcot dated the 14th. of this Month. The News contain'd in Doubayaram's Letter is that on account of the exorbitant Demands made by the French upon Salabat Jung, Balazarow advised him to Send them away to their Settlements. That Salabat Jung took his Advice and resolv'd to part with them, and that accordingly Mr. Bussy with the French Troops left Salabat Jung's Army and march'd the 12th. Instant towards Golcondah in their way to Metchlepatam.

Mr. Bussy with the French Troops having already more than once left Salabat Jung's Army and join'd it again, we look upon the Design of their Present Motion to be very uncertain and the cause of it may perhaps be some Object of Advantage instead of a quarrel between them and Salabat Jung. Mr. Bussy is too well acquainted with the Weight his Alliance with Salabat Jung gives to their Nation to quit it without an important Necessity. The Confirm'd News of a Disagreement between Salabat Jung and the French would lead us to a Serious Consideration of the Advantages we might hope to acquire from so lucky an Event, but the present Report we think it not Sufficient to authorize any Steps to that End, and it is judged most adviseable only at this time to desire the Nabob to communicate to us with the greatest Expedition, what further Advices he may receive from Salabat Jung's and Balazarow's Army.

Order'd that the Letter from Balazarow for the King of England which is in a Seal'd Bag, be transmitted with our first Packet to the Secret Committee.

Receiv'd the following Letter from Captain William Lee.

To the Honble George Pigot Esqr. President and Governor
&c^a Committee of Correspondence at Fort St George.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

I have receiv'd the honor of your Letter of the 21st. Instant, and immediately sent away the Bullocks loaded with Flints.

The Battalion and Seapoys are now entirely compleated with good Arms, and I have return'd to Madras one hundred and fourteen that can't be repair'd in Camp, the Regulations you were pleased to order for any that were broke or Spoilt thro' carelessness, shall in future be Strictly observ'd, but we have not Sufficient of Cartouch Boxes and other Stores to compleat the whole, have therefore enclos'd an Additional Indent for such as are wanted for that purpose.

Yesterday a Party of Murtaz ally Cawn's Horse and Sepoys attack'd a Village near Agerum in which were about Sixty of the Nabob's Sepoys most of which they have kill'd or taken Prisoners and are now endeavouring to reduce that Fort; By the desire of the Nabob; and from a representation made by the Subedar who Commands there, I have detach'd two Companys of Seapoys more to join the Nabob's Troops and relieve the Place.

The Nabob informs me he has received certain Intelligence from Salabat Jung's Camp that the French and he have had some Disputes and that the former were march'd 10 Corse off and pursuing their Rout for Massulipatam.

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[81st] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 1756.*——

Agreable to your Orders the List of Pay of the Colourmen &c[a] of the Sepoy Companies are inserted in the Book of Military Regulations to be observed in Camp.

I have sent a Company of Sepoys to reinforce those employ'd in Bommerauze's Country which I thought the only probable Method to get the Money he owes the Company, and Shall make no new Agreement with him. I am with the greatest Respect

Hoñble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obliged, most humble and
most Obed[t] Servant
WILL[M]. LEE.

Camp at Arcot
26 May 1756.

P.S. 518. Seapoy Coats were deliverd to Captain Maskelyne, and Mr Maunsel has the Account of those given out in Camp, most of which have been paid for.

W.L.

The Committee approve of the Reinforcement of Sepoys sent to relieve Agerum from the Attempts of Murtaz ally Cawn Killedar of Veloor.

Order'd that the Stores indented for by Captain Lee be Sent out; and as Captain Maskelyne has the President's Leave to come to Madras for a few days, it is Agreed that Captain Pye have Charge of the Garrison of Arcot untill his Return.

The following Letter from Mr Dawsonne Drake Read.

To THE HOÑBLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQ[R]
&C[A] GENTLEMEN OF THE SECRET COMMITTEE.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

I have received your Letter of the 12th Instant and have laid in near fifty Garce of Paddy belonging to the Renters as I wrote you two days ago, would you please to have me lay in any more?

I am sorry that I should not have been understood in regard to what I wrote you concerning Bills, my only Reason for it was that in looking over former Accounts I found that the Chief of this Place had been frequently obliged to advance his own money for want of a due Supply from S[t] David, and in case of a War it might be of very dangerous Consequence to be in want of Cash, besides Bills would be saving the Charge & Risque of a Conveyance which is no inconsiderable Circumstance in time of War.

Four German Deserters are just come in, one from Tanjore and three from the Tinnavelly Country it seems they deserted from their Colours long before any Cartel was Settled, would you therefore please to have me entertain them in the Service? I have as yet only advanced each of them a Pagoda for their present Subsistance, the one from Tanjour acquaints me that there are Several more would be glad to come if I would give them Encouragement; please to favor me with your Directions thereon. I am with Respect Hoñble Sir & Sirs Your most Obed[t] humble Servant

DAWSONNE DRAKE.

Deve Cotah
16th May 1756.

The fifty Garse of Paddy deliver'd to Mr Drake at Deve Cotah by the Renters upon our Contract together with twenty Garce to be replac'd by Mr Hopkins will we judge be a pretty good Store for that Garrison. Agreed therefore to write M[r]. Drake not to lay in any more, and as the German Deserters mention'd in M[r]. Drake's Letter are we Suppose a part of those which came over to us from the French before

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, MAY 1756.*—— [31ST.]

the Cartel and afterwards Deserted from the Army under the Command of Colonel Heron; Order'd that they be put upon the Rolls of the Deve Cotah Company and that Mr Drake offer Pardon to as many others as will return.

GEORGE PIGOT.
ROBERT CLIVE.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
AR. WYNCH.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.
ROBT. PALK.

Transcrib'd so far by
Willm. Aldersey.

Sent the following Letter to Capt Lee pursuant to the Resolutions of the foregoing Committee.

To CAPTAIN WILLIAM LEE.

Sir,

We have receiv'd your letter of the 26th and have order'd your Indent for Quartermaster's Stores to be complied with; We are concern'd at the Disturbance Murtazally Cawn creates and approve very much of your sending the two Companies of Sepoys. You will continue to give any further Assistance you see necessary.

Captain Pye whom we have appointed to the Grenadier Company will set out this Evening for Camp with Lieutenant Smith and Mr Ironside, a Voluntier. On their arrival you may permit Lieut Samson to come to Madras.

As some Recruits are already arriv'd from England, and we are in daily Expectation of more we wou'd have the Grenadier Company compleated with the best of the Men now in Camp and at Arcot; and as Captain Maskelyne's Affairs will make his Stay here some time longer, you are to give the Charge of the Garrison of Arcot to Captain Pye and recal Lieutenant Campbell.

We are Sir

Your most Obedient Servants

GEORGE PIGOT—ROBERT CLIVE—STRINGER LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY—ROBT. ORME—ALEX.R WYNCH—WILLIAM PERCIVAL—ROBT. PALK.

Fort St. George
31st May 1756.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

GEORGE PIGOT ESQR. GOVERNOR PRESIDENT
ROBT. CLIVE STRINGER LAWRENCE
HENRY POWNEY ROBERT ORME
ALEXANDER WYNCH WILLIAM PERCIVAL
ROBERT PALK.

WEDNESDAY JUNE THE 2ND.

The two following Letters from Captain Lee Read.

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[81p.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JUNE 1756.*——

To the Hoñble George Pigot Esqr.
President and Governor &^ca. Gentlemen of the
Committee of Correspondence.

Hoñble Sir, & Sirs.

I am this instant honor'd with your letter of the 26th Instant and early tomorrow morning Captain Gaupp's Company with the Deserters will march for Carangoly: I will also detach one Company of Sepoys with them.

I acquaint'd you on the 26th Instant of my reinforcing the Detachment employ'd in Securing the Jagueers taken from Murtazally Cawn, and from the accounts I receive, I fear I shall rather be oblig'd to encrease than diminish the number, there is also a Company in Bommerauze's Country, and the remainder here of two Companies and a half are not near Sufficient to do the present duty, the Nabob has a Seapoy as well as European Guard, and the other necessary Guards and Detachments require a greater number than we can now afford.

As the Nabob inform'd me he had your authority to apply to me for ammunition, I have hitherto supplied his Seapoys with it, but the Expence of those and ours together encreasing very considerably, should be glad of the honor of your Instructions how I am to act, he assures me he is not able to procure it any other way.

I am with the greatest Respect
Hoñble Sir & Sirs
Your most obliged, most Obedient,
and most humble Servant

Camp at Arcot
May 29th 1756.

William Lee

To Hoñble George Pigot Esqr.
President and Governor and Gentlemen of the
Committee of Correspondence.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

In consequence of your orders of the 26th Instant. Yesterday morning Captain Gaupp's Company with 7 Deserters, and a Company of Sepoys march'd for Carangoly agreable to the Inclos'd return, 2 of the Deserters are ill in the Hospital, and were unable to be sent with the Command.

This morning I receiv'd advice from our Subedars, that on the 29th at night the Veloor Seapoys got possession of Agerum, on the 26th the Nabob sent 600 Horse 400 Seapoys and 500 men with Matchlocks to join the Companies Seapoys and relieve the place, but on their marching within a few miles of the Fort, and hearing that the Veloor Troops had surrounded it, the Nabob's people absolutely refus'd going any further, and turn'd back because they had no pay, our Sepoys finding themselves unable alone to releive the place, Retreated to Trevalum a Strong Fort 15 Miles from Arcot 350, of the Nabob's Seapoys were taken prisoners, and 200 horse left there as part of the Garrison had some days before either join'd the Veloor Troops or run away, the Jemidar who commanded Agerum, was recommended to the Nabob by the Nelloor Subidar and, as I am told always behav'd well in the Company's Service, he writes that he defended the Fort as long as the Nabob's Sepoys had either provisions or ammunition and that necessity oblig'd him to leave it with his own people in the night, and I don't hear that any of the Companies Sepoys have suffer'd in this affair, he adds that Murtaz ally has been join'd by near 1000 Polligars, and has four Guns and a few Europeans which remain at present in and near Agerum. The Nabob's taking into his Service such a number of Horse and Seapoys will never answer his purpose without they are more regularly supply'd with pay and Ammunition, for as Soon as ever there is any Service for them, they either mutiny or desert, I have supplied him with Ammunition as far as I thought it consistent with my duty, he allways telling he cou'd get very small quantities any other way.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JUNE 1756.*—— [2d]

The Nabob does not propose any method for recovering this place, as he finds how little he can depend on his own people, and from the accounts I have receiv'd, the risk wou'd be too great to attempt it with the Company's Seepoys alone, this Fort is at least 35 Miles from hence, and directly on the other side of Veloor; as I was entirely unacquainted with the Situation of these places, except from the intelligence I had from the Amuldar and Subedars, I was in a great measure oblig'd to give them discretionary orders, to act in the manner that shou'd appear to them most conducive to the Interest of the Nabob and Company, and I Shall now keep those on Detachment as near together as possible, to secure the other Jagueers till I am honor'd with your further orders.

I am with the greatest Respect
Hon'ble Sir & Sirs
Your most Oblig'd, most Obed^{t}· and most
hble Servant
WILLIAM LEE.

Camp at Arcot
31st May 1756.

It gives the Committee great Concern to observe the advantages mention'd in Captain Lee's above Letters, to have been gain'd on more than one Occasion by the Troops of Murtaz ally Cawn Killedar of Veloor, over those of the Nabob, particularly in the retaking of Agerum, the most considerable of all the Veloor Jageers, that were seiz'd at the time of Major Killpatrick's entering those Districts with the Army. It appears that these Misfortunes may be attributed in great Measure to the Nabob himself, who, forgetting the advice we have so often given him, has enlisted more Horse and Sepoys than he is able to maintain, and therefore those Troops not being regularly paid, either turn their backs when sent on any Service, or else desert to the Enemy. Agreed to represent once more to the Nabob the hurt his Affairs suffer from such a Conduct, not only in point of Credit, but also by the waste of Ammunition, the Expence of which Capt. Lee represents to have been considerably increas'd by that means.

As Agerum is at so great a distance as thirty five Miles from Arcot & Veloor lies between them, it would take up more of our Attention and a larger Force than we wou'd chuse to employ at this time on such a Service, and more indeed than the Consequence of it deserves to retake it from the Troops employ'd there by Murtaz ally Cawn. It is Agreed therefore to content ourselves for the present, with writing both to the Nabob and Captain Lee to send us a List of the Veloor Jageers remaining in his (the Nabob's) Possession, with an account of their Situation & Value, from which we may judge whether their Revenue will answer the Expence of maintaining the Possession, and how best to do it. In the mean time Captain Lee to Secure them by all prudent Means in his Power against the Efforts of Murtaz ally.

On the Subject of Ammunition it is Resolv'd to write Captain Lee to supply the Nabob hereafter with such Quantities only as He (Captain Lee) Shall judge to be absolutely necessary on material Occasions.

And as by the many Drafts of Seapoys from the Army, Enough are not left for the Camp Duty; it is Agreed that the Company Sent into Arcot Fort in March last be return'd to Captain Lee.

Letter from the Commissaries at Madarantegum dated 30th: May as Enter'd No. 27 in the Book of their Proceedings, Read, inclosing a List of the French Seapoys employ'd in, and on the Borders of the Contested Districts, Amounting in all to the number of one thousand, and twenty five, Representing that the same French Agent who was at the head of the Acherevaucum affair in which our Peon was kill'd, publishes throughout the Contested Districts, that he shall soon cut off more of the People belonging to the English, and Seize all the Inhabitants who favor them. And requesting to know, whether in case of an open Rupture, they shou'd give a General Leave to the Inhabitants to carry away the Grain.

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[2d.] ——*FORT St. GEORGE, JUNE 1756.*——

The Committee are of opinion it will be best to give such General Leave to the Inhabitants in case of open Hostilities; Otherwise the French by the help of the Number of their Seapoys and Peons quarter'd in the different Villages of the Contested Districts will be enabled to Secure the Greatest Part of the Grain to themselves. For the other Matters recited in our Commissaries beforemention'd Letter, We wait an answer to the Representations lately made by Mr. deLeyrit.

Order'd that the two Companies of Military which march'd lately under the Command of Captain Callender from Trichenopoly to Devecotah, do proceed from thence to Fort St. David where they will be in readiness to take the Field with the King's Troops upon any Occasion and in the mean time Serve to reinforce the Garrisons of Fort St. David and Cuddalore, which are at present very bare of Men.

It having been represented to us, that the Detachment of Royal Artillery, under the Command of Captain Hislop, consists of so small a number of Men as will by no means be able to Serve the Train purpos'd to be carried into the Field with the Regiment, It is Agreed to draft twenty-five men from the Military Companies at Fort St. David, after the Arrival of the two abovemention'd, and put them under the Orders of Captain Hislop who will discipline them and keep them on duty with his Majesty's Train.

And Order'd that these twenty-five men be struck off the Military Rolls the 1st of next month, and put upon the Roll of the Fort St. David Train Company, to which they will hereafter be return'd.

GEORGE PIGOT.
ROBERT CLIVE.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
A. WYNCH.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.
ROBT. PALK.

Sent the following Letters to Richard Starke Esqr., Mr. Dawsonne Drake, and Captain William Lee, pursuant to the Resolutions of the foregoing Committee.

To RICHARD STARKE ESQR.
DEPUTY GOVERNOR OF FORT ST. DAVID.

Sir

We have direct'd Captain Callender to march from Fort St. David to your Garrison with his own and Major Kilpatrick's Companies which came under his Command from Trichenopoly. On their Arrival Captain Lin may add Major Kilpatrick's Company to the few men he now has of his own; you will then have three compleat English Companies at Fort St. David.

As the Detachment of Royall Artillery under the Command of Captain Hislop has been represented to us as insufficient for the Service of the Train they have to carry into the Field, we Direct that a Draft be made, out of these three English Companies, of twenty five men, to be approv'd by Captain Hislop, under whose Orders they are to be put, to be disciplin'd by him, and to do duty only with his Majesty's Train.

And these twenty five men are to be struck off the Military Rolls the 1st of next month, and put upon the Roll of your Artillery Company.

Observing you have 60 Six pounders in Store besides what are mounted, we woud have you send the half of them hither as Opportunities offer.

We are Sir
Your most Obedient Servants
GEORGE PIGOT &CA. COMMITTEE.

Fort St. George
2d June 1756.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JUNE 1756.*—— [2D.]

To Mr. Dawsonne Drake.

Sir

We have receiv'd your Letter dated the 16th: of this month. The fifty Garse of Paddy you have laid in, with the twenty Garse to be replac'd by Mr. Hopkins will be a Sufficient Stock for your Garrison. You are therefore not to purchase any more without further Orders.

Let the Deserters be entertain'd in the Service and plac'd upon the Rolls of the Company belonging to your Garrison, and use your Endeavors to get the others from Tanjour by a promise of Pardon, which is the only Encouragement we can give them, —As we suppose they are a Part of those Germans who deserted from the French, and were entertain'd in our Service before the Cartel.

The inclos'd Letter, which you will deliver to Captain Callendar is an Order for him to march to Fort St. David with the two Companies he brought from Trichenopoly. You are to give the People Batta for so many days as you judge they will be on the Road.

We are Sir
Your most Obedient Servants
George Pigot &c^a. Committee.

Fort St. George
2d. June 1756.

To Captain William Lee.

Sir

We have before us your Letters of the 29th & 31st. We have often represented to the Nabob the hurt he does his Affairs by enlisting Horse and Seapoys more than he is able to pay and who have always deserted him whenever they have been sent on any Service. We have now wrote to him again on this Subject, and told him also that it is impossible for us to supply his Irregular Troops with Ammunition; Send us a Return of what you have furnish'd him with, since you took the Command of the Army, and continue to Supply him with such Quantities only, as you shall judge absolutely necessary upon material Occasions.

Agerum is at so great a Distance from Arcot, that we do not purpose to attempt for the Present the retaking it. Make a particular Enquiry what Veloor Jageers remain in the Possession of the Nabob, and what is their value, after which we Shall send you further Directions; in the mean time, You are to endeavor to maintain the Possession of them by all prudent Means in your Power. We have directed the Commanding Officer in Arcot Fort to return you the Company of Seapoys, put under Captain Maskelyne's command in March last: which is the only Addition we can at present make to your Numbers.

We are Sir
Your most Obedient Servants
George Pigot &c^a. Committee.

Fort St. George
2d. June 1756.

Receiv'd a Letter from Mr. Leyrit to the President dated the 1st Instant as enter'd in the French Correspondence No. 35. 4TH.

At a Committee

Present

George Pigot Esqr., Governor President
Robert Clive — Stringer Lawrence
Henry Powney — Robert Orme
Alexander Wynch — William Percival
Robert Palk.

THURSDAY THE 10TH.

Mr. de Leyrit's Letter No. 35 dated 1st June Read, acknowledging the Receipt of the President's Letters dated 25th & 26th May which contain'd Complaints on

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[10TH·] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JUNE 1756.*——

the Subject of the Violences Committed by the French Commissary's Agents in the Contested Districts and particularly of the Affair which happen'd at Acherevaucum the 24th May wherein one of our Peons was kill'd.

This Letter of Mr· Leyrit's, instead of answering points of Complaint contain'd in the President's, consists entirely of Recriminations without Proofs, where every Article of the Complaints made on our Part was accompanied with a Copy of the Representations laid before us, by the Suffering Inhabitants. In the same manner the Relation of the Death of our Peon at Acherevaucum was attested by three Principal Inhabitants, and the Killedar of Carangoly, who declares that thirty or forty other Persons were also present, But Monsr· De Leyrit instead of offering to release the Inhabitant Rama Chunder Reddy whom they Seiz'd on that Occasion, & carried Prisoner to Alumparva, or to give a Suitable Satisfaction for the Death of our Peon, transmits the Copy of a long Letter wrote him by Mr. Rocher, by which Says he it appears that our People were the Agressors—Afterwards he proposes to have the Affair enquir'd into along with his Complaint of the 26th March on the Subject of a Mosque in Cadapery taken Possession of by our People—And he concludes with declaring that he is ready to concur in any means we can propose to bring about an Accommodation.

The Affair of Cadapery Mosque is treated at large in these minutes the 30th March last wherein it appears that Cadapery is a Village belonging incontestably to us, and that neither the French Seapoys nor any of their Attendants inhabited that Mosque at the time our Seapoys for want of Sufficient Quarters took Possession of it.

The Truth of this we can now prove beyond all doubt, by Seven Concurrent Depositions declaring that the Mosque was not inhabited, nor had been for fifteen days before our Seapoys took Possession of it. These Seven Depositions are ready to be prov'd on Oath, and are enter'd in the Proceedings of the Commissaries after No. 28. Agreed to Send a Copy of the Seven Depositions to Mr· de Leyrit as an answer upon this Article, remarking to him at the Same time that it is an Article of a much less important Nature than the Injury done us at Acherevaucum.

And then it is Agreed to point out to Mr· Leyrit the many obvious Improbabilities, and ill-grounded Assertions contain'd in Mr· DuRocher's Letter on that Subject, Such as our Commissaries having sent Seapoys armed with Muskets, of which there was absolutely not one on our Side, throughout the whole Course of the Affair; And to conclude with declaring to him, that we Shall with pleasure concur in any Reasonable Means of Accommodation, but as we have produc'd such plain Proofs of the Violent Injury done us at Acherevaucum we must previously to all Proceedings insist on the Release of the Inhabitant Rama Chunder Reddy and a proper Satisfaction for the Death of our Peon renewing our Protest in case of his Refusal.

Letter from Captain Gaupp at Carangoly Read, as enter'd No. 28 in the Book of Proceedings of the Commissaries advising of the Arrival of his Company there, with a Company of Sepoys who have not one good Firelock among them.

Order'd that Eighty Repair'd Arms be sent to Carangoly for the use of the said Company of Sepoys and that Captain Gaupp be direct'd to Send in the unserviceable Arms.

The following Letter from Capt· William Lee, Read.

To the Hoñble George Pigot Esqr·
President & Governor and the Gentlemen
of the Committee of Correspondence.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

I receiv'd the honor of your letter of the 31st ultimo, last night by Captain Pye, who immediately had the charge of the Garrison deliver'd over to him, and

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JUNE 1756.*——. [10TH]

Lieutenant Campbell return'd here, Lieutenant Smith, and Mr. Ironside have also join'd the Camp; Lieutenant Sampson in Consequence of the Permission you was pleas'd to grant him, set out for Madras.

Agreable to your orders the Grenadier Company shall be compleated immediately there are in Camp and Arcot a Sufficient number of good men for that purpose.

The 2 deserters who were left Sick here, are recover'd and will be sent for Carangoly tomorrow.

Since I did myself the honor to write you the 31st, nothing extraordinary has happen'd Murtaz ally Cawn's Troops have march'd from Agerum, and are within 6 miles of some of our Sepoys, who are divided into three Forts, but as the Furthest of them is not more than 10 Coarse from hence, I can Safely reinforce them if there shou'd be occasion, these Posts I am inform'd Sufficiently cover the remaining Jageers and till I am honor'd with your farther orders shall keep them in this Situation, as from all the Accounts I receive of Murtaz ally's Force, it wou'd be impractible to retake Agerum with the Sepoys we cou'd Spare from hence, and the Nabob has not any he can depend on to give the least Assistance.

Inclos'd is a general muster of the Troops in Camp, and also the General Returns of Stores.

I am with the greatest Respect
Hon'ble Sir & Sirs
Your most Oblig'd most Obedient
& most humble Servant

Camp at Arcot
4th June 1756.

WILLIAM LEE.

Agreed to give orders to Captain Lee to protect the same Forts which cover the remaining Veloor Jageers in the Nabob's Seizure. And as an Opportunity may offer some time here after of calling Murtaz ally Cawn to an account for the Disturbances he has at several times raised, and is now raising in the Country it wou'd be useful to have some authentick Proofs of those Disturbances to produce on such an Occasion, and Agreed therefore to recommend to Captain Lee to procure Formal Attestations from the Inhabitants of any Village, belonging to the Circar, which may be plunder'd by the Troops of Murtaz ally Cawn, and to transmit those attestations to us.

Two letters from the Nabob Read, as enter'd No 143 & 144 in the Book of Country Correspondence giving an Account of the Irregularities committed by Murtaz ally Cawn and recommending that Measures be immediately taken to punish him, and besiege Veloor.

The Siege of Veloor is a Work of too much Expence and too great a Risque of men to be undertaken at this Critical Time, when News of the most intimate Concern to us is daily expected from Europe. Agreed therefore to write to the Nabob that we must wait an Opportunity desiring him in the mean time (as above recommended to Captain Lee) to procure Proofs of some particular Acts of Hostility committed by Murtaz ally Cawn in the Districts of the Circar which Proofs will Serve as an answer to any Applications that may here after be made to us in his favor and justify any Measures we may at a proper time resolve to take, to punish him for his Disturbances.

Captain Polier writes that the Renter of the Changleput District has deliver'd for the store of the Garrison twenty Garse Paddy which he has receiv'd in consequence of the Orders Formerly Sent him, but the Renter offering five Garse more (Saying that his Agreement was for twenty-five Garse) [he] desires Directions whether to receive it or not. Ordered that it be receiv'd, as an Addition of five Garse of Paddy will not make the Store of that Garrison too large, and it may be sold out again whenever it Shall be thought proper.

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[10th] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JUNE 1756.*——

Captain Pye by Letter the 4th Instant advises of his Arrival at Arcot, and receiving the Keys of the Garrison, that, of the Money advanc'd by the Nabob for carrying on the Fortifications, only nine hundred Rupees were left, which will not be Sufficient to pay the People employ'd for this Month, he therefore requests Orders how to proceed. Agreed to direct Captain Pye, conformably to our repeated former Resolutions, not to advance any Money of the Company's for the Repairs of the Country Forts, but to let the Works stop when the Money advanc'd by the Nabob is expended.

Mr. Drake advises of the Arrival at Devecotah the 31st May of Mr. Engineer Call and Lieutenant Hume appointed in Committee the 6th May to Survey the State of that Garrison and make a full Report to us.

The following Letter from Captain John Caillaud Read.

No. 29. TO THE HOÑBLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQR. PRESIDENT AND GOVERNOR &CA. GENTLEMEN OF THE COMMITTEE AT MADRAS.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

Since my last No. 28 dated the 3d May, I have been honor'd with your several favors Nos. 29, 30, 31 & 32 dated the 27th April; and 7th, 19th & 21st of May. I have carefully observ'd and follow'd all the orders, and directions which they contain'd.

As I did not receive you [*sic*] favor of the 19th untill the 27th approving the reduction of Lascars; that Saving cou'd not take place, untill the next month. 60 is the number discharged. A great many of them chose to Stay here, as they can get work, those who went down were not worth recommending. The Serangs, & Tindals I have kept, being approv'd, Good men, & their Service very necessary here.

Permit me, with deference to your Orders, to mention a word in favor of the Colormen in the Seapoys, whose pay you have thought proper to reduce. They are chosen Seapoys, always pick'd out of the Company for that Service. As the men esteem the loss of their Colours a disgrace, they have persons to carry them whom most they can depend on. The letter inclosing those Orders, also not coming, until the end of the month; that Regulation cou'd not take place, but for the last 15 days, and the Stopage made of half, from the last Payment, one Rupee each. Next month it Shall be pursued, unless you please to favor the Colormen, whom I have taken the Liberty to recommend.

I had the honor of addressing the President the 24th of last month, Informing him, that the Nellour had Settled the payment of the Tribute money, from two of the Polligars, Katabominaige, and Ellerampanah. The Securities were at his desire, and Agreement with their Masters, to be sent to Puttahcotah, Tondiman's place of Residence. And their arrival there been made known, the Nellour was to receive the money, and the men to be set free. Etaponaicke had also been setled with, but in a different manner Part in ready money, the remainder monthly, So his Securities still remain here, until it is perform'd.

Since writing that Letter to the President, I have receiv'd another from the Nellour, with this further Account. That the Army had march'd to Colarpetty, In order to bring that Polligar to Reason, and make him pay the money due. But after having waited some days to no purpose, for the execution of his promises, the Nellour attack'd his Fort, and took it by Storm. The Serjeant of the Cafrees with 8 more private men were wounded and 3 killed. In the Seapoys 65, wounded and 8, killed with a Subidar, The Polligar made his escape, but I expect soon to hear they have brought him to terms.

I hope you will be pleased to overlook my error, which has drawn on me your reproof for having neglected sending Bullocks from here, with Captain Callenders

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JUNE 1756.*—— [10TH.]

party. It is owing to my headlessness (for which I beg pardon) of mentioning in my accounts of Charges ; Carriage & Draught Bullocks, (the Former being only proper for him) which made you justly think I had Such : whereas in fact I have none. Those I had, having been all exchanged for Draught ones. My reason was, the one being a dead Expence, and the others of great Service, and kept constantly employ'd in bringing in large timber for the Garrison, as well for present use, as for Store; For since my Coming here, I have made up, (besides what is mention'd in my Returns) Ten new Garrison Carriages for 18, 12, & 9 Pounders, four new ones for feild Pieces, a large Transport Carriage and eight new Tumbrils, and all the rest in constant repair, and fit for Service.

Accompanying this, are two Estimates to be laid before you, for the Repairs of the French Prison, and the Grain Magazines. The roof of the Former by the late rain having like to have fallen in. And the others not keeping the wet out, endanger the Paddy. The beginning of July closes the year. By that time I Shall be carefull that you have an exact account of the Grain, and State of the Magazines.

Inclos'd I have the honor to Send the monthly returns, and Accounts for May.

I remain with great Respect
Hoñble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedient and Faithfull Servant

Trichenopoly
3d June 1756.

JOHN CAILLAUD.

Order'd that copies of the Estimates inclos'd in Captain Caillaud's Letter Vizt.

One for the Repair of the French Prison amounting to Trichenopoly Fanams 7343.

N.B. 30, Trichenopoly Fans make a Current Pagoda.

The other for Repairing the Paddy Magazines amounting to Trichenopoly Fanams 3351.

be transmitted to the Nabob with a Letter requesting him to Send an order for the Money.

The mention made by Captain Caillaud, in favor of the Colourmen belonging to the Seapoy Companies at Trichenopoly being thought reasonable it is Agreed, that they be continued at eight Rupees a Month, but that they be promoted to be Naigues on the first Vacancies, and the places of the Colourmen filled with such Seapoys as best deserve Promotion, continuing them at Seapoys Pay (6 Rupees ℔ Month). By this means the Colourmen will have the Encouragement of Standing next for Preferment, in lieu of extraordinary Pay.

With regard to the Polligar Securities it is Agreed to empower Captain Caillaud to conform to such Agreements for their Release on the payment of the Tribute money as Shall be made with their Masters by the Nellour Subidar, Usof Cawn, who according to the advice contain'd in the Letters lately receiv'd from him as enter'd in the Country Correspondence Nos. 142, 147, & 148 has already Settled with three of those Polygars vizt. Katabominaigue, Ettapore, & Elirampana.

In the Letter No. 147 Usoff Cawn mentions that a Principal Merchant offers to give twenty Lacks a Year for the Tinnevelly Country. The President is desir'd to write to him for a particular Account of this offer, what is the Man's name, Family, and Character, what are his Terms with regard to the Expences of the Troops, and what Security will he give; as it may be necessary to make a Trial with this Man, the Nabob not having yet sent any answer on the Subject of the Offers of Tetarapah Moodillee which were refer'd to him in Committee 26th May.

Nizar Mahomed Cawn Killedar of Chetteput, by Letter Enter'd No. 146 in the Country Correspondence, advises that Corporal Glen who commanded the small Detachment posted in that Garrison deserted with another man the 1st Instant

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[10TH.] ———*FORT ST. GEORGE, JUNE 1756.*———

Ordered that a Letter be wrote to the Killedar to desire he will make strict Enquiry which way they are gone, and advise us; And that Serjeant Willcock be sent to command the Detachment, who being a prudent Man, and of some Judgment, may be directed to make such Remarks as may be useful hereafter on the Situation of the Fort, taking care not to give the Killedar any Room for Suspicion.

GEORGE PIGOT.
ROBERT CLIVE.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
AR. WYNCH.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.
ROBT. PALK.

Pursuant to the foregoing Resolutions Sent a Letter from the President to Mr. Leyrit of this date as enter'd in the Book of French Correspondence No. 36. Also the following Letters to Capt. Caillaud & Capt. Lee.

No. 33. To CAPTAIN JOHN CAILLAUD.

Sir

We have receiv'd your Letter of the 3d June, with the monthly Papers inclos'd. We have sent the Estimates for repairing the French Prison, and the Paddy Magazines, to the Nabob, desiring him to dispatch Orders immediately for the Furnishing the Money.

Whatever Methods the Nellour Subidar may Settle with the Polligars, with your approbation, for the Payment of the Tribute Money due on account of the Securities left in your charge, you may conform to, by Sending the Securities to such Place as Shall be agreed on; The Nellour Subidar has orders to remit you all Moneys he may receive, which you will give Credit for to the Commissary and keep it for the use of the Garrison.

In complyance with your Recommendation of the Colourmen we agree that they be continued at 8 Rupees a month; When any Vacancies of Officers happen, let these be the first promoted to be Naigues, and fill the places of the Colourmen with Such of the Seapoys as best deserve Preferment, continuing them at Seapoys Pay, but the next for Promotion which will be some Encouragement for their good Behaviour in lieu of extraordinary Pay.

We are Sir
Your most Obedient Servants

GEORGE PIGOT—ROBERT CLIVE—STRINGER LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY—ROBERT ORME—ALEXR. WYNCH—WILLIAM PERCIVAL—ROBERT PALK.

Fort St. George
11th June 1756.

To CAPTAIN WILLIAM LEE.

Sir

We have receiv'd your Letter dated 4th June. We are glad to find that the three Forts which cover the remaining Jageers taken from Murtaz ally Cawn lye so near to Arcot; you will content yourself with protecting them, and in case Murtaz ally Cawn Shou'd ravage or plunder or commit Violence against any Place belonging

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JUNE 1756.*—— [11TH.]

incontestably to the Circar & which was not dependent upon Veloor, we recommend to you to procure from the Principal Inhabitants of such Place full and well Attested Informations in writing of the Circumstances of the Fact, and the time of it's being committed; which Informations You will transmit to us. They will be a Justification of any Measures we may resolve hereafter to take.

We are Sir

Your most Obedient Servants

GEORGE PIGOT &CA. COMMITTEE.

Fort St. George
11th June 1756.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

GEORGE PIGOT ESQR. GOVERNOR PRESIDENT
ROBERT CLIVE STRINGER LAWRENCE
HENRY POWNEY ROBERT ORME
ALEXANDER WYNCH WILLIAM PERCEVAL
ROBERT PALK.

The following Letter from Captain William Lee, Read,

MONDAY THE 14TH.

To THE HOÑBLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQR.
PRESIDENT & GOVERNOR &CA., GENTLEMEN
OF THE COMMITTEE OF CORRESPONDENCE AT FORT ST. GEORGE.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

I receiv'd the honor of your letter of the 2d Instant, but cou'd not get the account of the Veloor Jageers till this morning, the Nabob has been much out of order, and kept his room some days past, but is now better, he intends discharging many of his Horse and Seapoys immediately, as it is impossible for him to pay so great a number; I have enclos'd a State of the Jageers, and a Return of the Ammunition expended by the Company's and Nabob's Seapoys in the care of those Districts; Murtaz ally's people have made no other attempts to retake any of them, and I believe the Seapoy Force I have on command is Sufficient to oppose them if they Shou'd, at least till they can be reinforc'd from hence. Captain Pye has return'd the Company of Seapoys to Camp, agreable to your Orders.

The Seapoys continue on Coñand in Bommerauses Country, Narang writes they put him off from day to day, with promises of paying the Money, and that he beleives they have no intention to do it, he has not yet receiv'd any Money.

I am with the greatest Respect

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obliged & most Obedient humble Servant

WILLIAM LEE.

Camp at Arcot
10th June 1756.

By the List of Veloor Jageers accompanying Captain Lee's above Letter, it appears that there yet remain under the Nabob's Seizure and Management to the Amount of above a Lack of Rupees yearly Income, the which it is to be hop'd Captain Lee will be able to Secure against any Attempts Murtaz ally Cawn may make to recover them. Ordered that the List be copied after these Minutes.

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[14TH·] ——*FORT ST· GEORGE, JUNE 1756.*——

Agreed that the Seapoys remain in Bommerauzes Country, and that Captain Lee be directed to continue to press that Polygar for the Payment of his Cadjan Note for Seventy thousand (70,000) Rupees due to the Company.

Letter from Captain Gaupp & Ensign Bannatyne Commissaries for Contested Districts, as Enter'd No. 30 in the Book of their Proceedings, dated 10th Instant Read, advising that Mr. duRocher the French Commissary is gone to Pondichery, that all the French Seapoys & People belonging to them have left Cadapery, and lodg'd themselves at Tandarey a Village about two English Miles from the Fort of Carangoly, where two other Gentlemen are arriv'd from Pondichery. Captain Gaupp writes under date the 11th that it is reported the French Gentlemen intend to take up their Quarters again at Cadapery and desires to know whether he Shou'd oppose them in the Execution of that Design—as Cadapey [*sic*] is Situated within a Mile of the Fort of Carangoly.

Although the Custom of Nations wou'd justify our opposing any Armed Force that shou'd attempt to quarter themselves within a Mile of a Fort belonging to us, and although Mr· Leyrit has not given us any Notice of his changing his Commissaries, so that we can look upon the Gentlemen newly arriv'd in the Light of Soldiers; Yet as we wou'd not without an absolute Necessity give an Opportunity of kindling a War in the Contested Districts it is Agreed to direct the Commissaries, in case the French shou'd move with a design to return to Cadapery, to content themselves with protesting against the Commanding Officer for the Consequences of an Action which he must well know to be contrary to the Custom of Nations; to acquaint us then with the Result of their Protest, and wait our further Orders.

In a letter from our Commissaries is a Detail of many Violences committed by a French Party on their March from Pondichery to the Contested Districts which it is Agreed to defer taking Notice of untill we receive Mr· Leyrit's answer to the Letter wrote him the 11th instant.

Captain Pye writes from Arcot of the Desertion of Corporal Glen & another Man from Chetteput as mention'd in last Committee, and that he has Sent a Serjeant and two Men in their Room. Serjeant Willcock being gone from hence pursuant to the Order of last Committee, Agreed to write Captain Pye to order back his Serjeant and two Men.

The following Letter from Richard Starke Esqr· Read.

To the Hoñble the President and Governor
and the Gentlemen for conducting Country Affairs.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

I am favor'd with your Letters of the 19th May & 2d June, and in Consequence of the First have given Keyser Jing a Piece of Broad Cloth as an Encouragement for his Diligence in training the Seapoys.

The two Companies under Captain Callender's Command are arriv'd from Deve Cotah, and your Several Directions relating to them Shall be complied with.

Inclos'd is the Account of Disbursements for the Regiment, and Copies of the Vouchers for the month of April last.

I am with Respect
Hoñble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedient humble Servant

Fort St· David
10th June 1756.

Richd Starke.

P.S. Your favor of the 8th is this Instant come to hand.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JUNE 1756.*—— [14th.]

The Account of Disbursements on the Regiment for the month of April 1756 is found to Amount to Pagodas one thousand, nine hundred an [*sic*] eighteen, three Fanams and eight Cash, (1918–3–8).

Order'd that all the Accounts of Disbursements for the Regiment which have been transmitted to us, Viz^{t}., from their first Arrival to the 30th April 1756, be deliver'd over to the President and Council, together with the Copies of the Vouchers, in order that they may take such Steps, as to them Shall seem most proper for getting those Accounts clear'd, or certified in a Regular Manner; Colonel Adlercron being now on the Spot.

GEORGE PIGOT.
ROBERT CLIVE.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
A^{R}. WYNCH.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.
ROBT. PALK.

AN ACCOUNT OF THE VILLAGES WHICH THE NABOB TOOK FROM MURTAZ ALLY CAWN.

			Villages.	Yearly Revenue.
VADDAGOPETTA VILLAGES			36	Rs. 18126–0–0
Ullahour	Vallanguery	Trinelly		
Valtancherry	Vallancotta	Munnatonn		
Vencattapore	Perumbattene-	Echam Carney		
Chitavanour	lore.			
Champack	Acherevaucum	Cottambed		
Coodupandalom	Nademarom	Tripalore		
Carreney	Curavameddu	Arriamgoonda		
Amnavacom	Vallea Carney	Mellpet		
Edeatore	Narianpacom	Poondy		
Annamalleputary	Canarpacom	Porundampocam		
	Meercanda	Allepacam		
	Veylore	Vampacom		
Madompacom	Perinjampacom	Orcatpett		
PADDYVEDDU VILLAGES & METTOWS			26	40000–0–0
Kellur	Anantapurom	Shingara Coil		
Isprapore	Keshapore	Kangaranondill		
Santavashell	Mitapollam	Vandalore		
Vencatacarapollam	Vallour	Coopang		
Devastanom	Archampett	Valore		
Callcoopang	Yerbemly	Coonature		
Angoram	Rendnarypett	Amynandell		
Shantavashell	Collature	Pollore		
TRIVALLOM VILLAGES & METTOWS			56	30000–0–0
Shickrajaporum	Permaul Coopang	Qullapacom		
Coocanore	Taguerocoopang	Comarapalla		
Narsingaporum	Pallery	Samsaporum		
Killinanally	Vassore	Dallawaypala		
Pettatock	Tongunrom	Ongorepalla		
Areapocom	Pellary Coopang	Masharedypala		
Amundy	Buckapatnom	Trimolenaickpala		
Carranompetta	Reddypala	Cotahour		
Venombally	Zuvypella	Gadacondayah-pala		

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[14th.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JUNE 1756.*——

AN ACCOUNT OF THE VILLAGES WHICH THE NABOB TOOK FROM MURTAZALLY CAWN—*cont.*

			Villages.	Yearly Revenue.
Codocomtangel	Pitchomredypala	Nagorepalla		
Stripadanellore	Topasspala	Jargoary palla		
Maradompacom	Doserypala	Mellnut Sheydea		
Mellpady	Condredypala	Arvashmayah-pala.		
Vellymalle	Armorypala	Batteyangapala		
Sharoptanguel	Ingom	Chiradaverypala		
Codecoopang	Orcatore	Keshavanaick		
Yercompetta	Callapalla	Paparey		
Comolomtanguel	Ragavaresypala			
Combantanguel Poondeypett			118	
SHIRVALORE VILLAGES AND METTOWS			25	Rs. 18000–0–0
of which Carody Cawn got 3 Villages & 2 Mettows		Rs. 9000		
The 20 Villages Remain as follows		Rs. 9000		
		Rs. 18000		
Shovandaputore	Shoteunney	Nellampett		
Yernamangolam	Navonandell	Aurummedu		
Carcattore	Callashatnotrom	Callpetta		
Anantaporum	Perenatum	Puspagnery		
Annem	Torovanandel			
Combanandell	Callvashell			
Topanandell	Mallemodo			
Ichombaddy	Putrampett			
AUGORAM VILLAGES			33	25000–0–0
		Villag[s] ...	176	Rs. 131,126–0–0

Madura, Vishavanadaporum	Atycoopang Chinnapely Coopang	
	Sharepaddy Coopang Pett	
Lingom Tanguel	Cattery coopang Achenapett	
Carrutaly	Callarycoopang	Pudupett
Tollepally	Goomary	Pacom
Trimoley Coopang	Vanamtanguel	Aremolly
Mallealla	Nemataporom	Areachatt
Mahomet porum	Madeapet	Pallapady
Pallalu coopang	Gangasamy coopang	Angoram
Condduro	Omeapet	
Veepacoopang	Tirtam	
Pulytore	Callpara	
Vadayady	Vettpett	
	Pollyputt	

Angoram & the above Villages retaken by Murtaz ally Cawn's Troops Amounting to ... ... Rs. 25000

Pursuant to the above Resolution Sent the following Letter to Captain Lee.

To CAPTAIN WILLIAM LEE.

Sir

We have receiv'd your Letter of the 10th with the List of Veloor Jageers, and the Return of Ammunition Supply'd the Nabob.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JUNE 1756.*——

You may let the Seapoys remain with Narrau, and continue to press Bommerauze for the Money.

We are Sir
Your most Obedient Servants
GEORGE PIGOT &c^a. COMMITTEE.

Fort St. George
14th. June 1756.

Robert Clive Esqr. Set out for Fort St. David.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

GEORGE PIGOT ESQ^R. GOVERNOR PRESIDENT — TUESDAY THE 22D
STRINGER LAWRENCE — HENRY POWNEY
ROBERT ORME — ALEXANDER WYNCH
WILLIAM PERCEVAL — ROBERT PALK.

Letter from the Nabob as enter'd No. 160 in the Country Correspondence Read, complaining against the Amuldars or Renters of the two Conjeverams, Tervatore & Terpasore, Inhabitants of Madras, and proposing to discharge them, and in order that there may be no difficulty about their Proportion of the four Lack which will be due to the Company in September he incloses a Bill on Buckunjee's House for the whole Sum.

The Nabob having last year let out the two Conjeverams and Terpasore for three Years, and taken good and Sufficient Security for the payment of the Renters, It is unreasonable that he shou'd discharge them without very Strong Proof of their ill Management, and Oppression of the Inhabitants. The Complaints that have been made against these Renters have been only upon Causes which are practis'd by every Renter in this Country, but Far less by those under our Government than under the Moors; upon the whole It is the Opinion of the Committee that the turning out the old Renters, and putting in new will Answer no good End; and with regard to the Company's Money, the Security given by Linga Chitty is quite Sufficient. It is therefore Agreed to return the Bill on Buckunjee to the Nabob, and to recommend to him to let things remain on their present Footing, as the breaking his Agreement with the Renters without very Sufficient Cause of Complaint, will discourage others from renting his Countries.

The Beginning of July being the time of Settling the Rents of the Country Consideration is now had on the State of Receipts and Disbursements on the Nabob's Account in order to form a Judgement what Assignment shoud be made to the Company out of the Rents of the approaching Year. The Commissaries Books being call'd for, it appears that the Disbursements on account of the Nabob from the 1st May 1755 to 30th April 1756 will exceed the Sum of ten Lacks of Rupees, without reckoning the cost of Stores: And although when the Rents of Tripoty, Changleput, Covelong, Mannamungulum and the Seven Magans, with the Money receiv'd from the Polligars, are added to the eight Lack assign'd by the Nabob out of the Rents of the Arcot Country, the Amount of the Debt will not increase, yet very little, or none at all, will it decrease and if a War shou'd break out which seems at this time very probable, the whole collected Sum above mention'd will fall far Short of the annual Expence, so that in such case the Debt will go on increasing.

	Ps.	Rs.
Tripoty	47,250	52,000
Changleput	32,000	
Covelon	8,000	
Mannamungulam ...	114,000	
Seven Magans ...	20,000	
Nabob's Assignment ...		800,000
Ps. ...	121,250	Rs. 852,000
Bangar Naig		70,000
Bomerause	6,136-9-60.	22,500

The last mention'd Sums: Collected from the Polligars, are not to be reckonn'd Annual.

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[22D.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JUNE 1756.*——

The Consideration of the large Arrears due to the Troops employed in the Arcot Country during Abdul Vahab Cawn's Government, which Arrears were to be paid by the Nabob was the reason we did not press him for a larger Assignment out of the Rents of this Year, but as according to the best Accounts we can get of the produce of the Arcot Countries now possess'd by the Nabob, their Annual Revenue amounts to fifteen or Sixteen Lacks of Rupees, we think that at least twelve Lacks Shou'd be made over to the Company who pay all Charges of Troops &c^{a}· by which means the Occasions of the Nabob for Money ought to be so very Small, that he might without distressing himself assign over the said Sum of twelve Lack.

And it is Agreed accordingly to write to the Nabob, that the Expences exceed the Eight Lacks he assign'd out of this Years Rents, in consideration of which, and his large Debt to the Company we must press him to make over at least twelve Lacks for the approaching Year, and also to determine upon letting the Tinnevelly Country to Tetarapah Moodilee, so that the half of those Rents may come into the Company towards the Discharge of the Debt.

Letters from the Nabob, as entered No. 156, & 161, in the country Correspondence, inclosing Copies of two Letters, one from Buckunjee to his Gomastah here, the other from the Nabob of Currapah to the Nabob, also a Letter enter'd No. 158 from Washadeva Punt in Salabat Jung's Camp; all which being read are found to confirm the News^{a} before receiv'd of the Departure of Monsr· Bussy with the French Troops from Salabat Jung's Army.

Private Committee 15 June.

The Nabob of Currapah writes further that having receiv'd an order from Salabat Jung to Join his Army, he is preparing to set out accordingly, and proposes to the Nabob, to march with his Troops and the English at the Same time. As the Nabob desires our Answer on this Subject it is Agreed to write him that we are in expectation of a person Sent by Salabat Jung to discourse upon Affairs, on whose Arrival we shall inform him fully of our Intentions.

Letter from Messrs· Gaupp and Bannatyne, Commissaries, as Enter'd in the Book of their Proceedings No. 32 Read, inclosing four Papers in reply to some Assertions contain'd in M^{r}· de Leyrit's Letter of 1st June. Ordered that they lye on the Table untill we receive M^{r}. Leyrit's Answer to the President's Letter of 11th June.

Letter from Captain Pye at Arcot Read, advising that he has recall'd the Serjeant he Sent to Chetteput, and that he has sent in two French and a Topass, Deserters from Chingee.

The President is desir'd to acquaint M^{r}· De Leyrit of the arrival of these Deserters, and that they are ready to be deliver'd to such Escort as he may send conformably to the Cartel. At the Same time various Reports give us Reason to believe that M^{r}· De Leyrit has not always on his part, acted with the same Regard to that Treaty. Particularly Serjeant Heims belonging to Captain Schaub's Company who went last month from Cuddalore to Pondicherry has not been return'd. As his own Information is much wanted upon the Scrutiny now making into Captain Schaub's accounts, The President will desire M^{r}· de Leyrit to order Enquiry to be made after him so that he may be sent back.

The following Letters from Richard Starke Esqr· Read.

To the Hoñble the President & Governor
and the Gentlemen for conducting Country Affairs.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

Admiral Watson having applied for one hundred & fifty Lascars, that number has been sent on board his Majesty's Ships, but M^{r}· Drake acquaints me that not

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—— *FORT ST. GEORGE, JUNE 1756.* —— [22D.]

one Lascar is yet arriv'd from Trichenopoly, and so far from being able to Spare any of his own, he is absolutely in want of twice the number he has for the indispensable Occasions of his Garrison, You will therefore please to let me know if I shall endeavour to raise more Lascars, and whether Such Lascars who were lately taken into Service and are now on board the Squadron, are still to be paid by the Commissary.

I am with Respect
Hoñble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedient humble Servant
RICHD. STARKE.

Fort St. David
16th June 1756.

In answer to the above Letter it is Agreed to write Robert Clive Esqr. that we wou'd have him entertain in the Company's Service as many good Lascars as he can meet with, but with regard to the Pay of those who have sent on board the Squadron, as they will enter on his Majesty's Pay the Day of their going on board, they are from that time to receive nothing from the Company.

Captain Gaupp writes that a Court Martial was held the 12th Instant, at Carangoly on the four Prisoners of his Company who were sent from Arcot, and all four Confessing themselves Guilty of Desertion were condemn'd to dye but he mitigated the Sentence, and ordered that they shou'd draw Lots and only one dye, who was executed accordingly the 13th in the morning.

Captain Gaupp advises further that there are at Fort St. David one Serjeant and Seven Private men belonging to his Company of whom one is Prisoner for Desertion.

Order'd that they be sent hither, as well the Men that are there belonging to Captain Polier, by the first Sea Conveyance; So that they may Join their Respective Companies.

GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
AR. WYNCH.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.
ROBT. PALK.

Sent the following Letter to Robert Clive Esqr. pursuant to the above Resolutions.

To ROBERT CLIVE ESQR.
DEPUTY GOVERNOR OF FORT ST. DAVID.

Sir

We receiv'd a Letter from Mr. Starke desiring to know whether the Lascars sent on board his Majesty's Ships shou'd be continued in pay of the Company in answer to which we have to acquaint you, that they enter on his Majesty's Pay the day of their going on board, and therefore they are to be paid nothing by the Company, from that time.

You will be pleas'd to send hither by the first Sea Conveyance all the Men belonging to Captain Polier and Captain Gaupp, in order that they may Join their Respective Companies. One of Gaupp's Company who is a prisoner for Desertion may be sent under Guard of the party.

We had given Directions to Mr. Starke to send for Lascars from Devecotah, where we expected a Supply wou'd have arriv'd from Trichenopoly, But the Lascar

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[23d.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JUNE 1756.*——

that were discharg'd at Trichenopoly having found other Employment there, we wou'd have you entertain all the good Lascars you shall be able to engage for the Company's Service.

We are Sir
Your most Obedient Servants

GEORGE PIGOT—STRINGER LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY—ROBERT ORME—ALEXANDER WYNCH—WILLIAM PERCEVAL—ROBERT PALK.

Fort St. George
23d. June 1756.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

WEDNESDAY THE 23RD.

GEORGE PIGOT ESQR. GOVERNOR PRESIDENT
STRINGER LAWRENCE HENRY POWNEY
ROBERT ORME ALEXANDER WYNCH
WILLIAM PERCEVAL ROBERT PALK.

Letter from the Nabob as enter'd No. 162 in the Country Correspondence Read, Setting forth that he does not approve of letting the Tinnevelly Country to Moodalee, and for reason he repeats the same useless Detail as is contain'd in his Letter No. 108 read in Committee 11th. May, He concludes however with desiring that we will send up to him any Person we shall think proper and who can give a Security and he is willing to give him a Saned for the Country.

We defer'd so long the finishing with Moodille at the Nabob's Request in order that he might have time to receive an answer from Mahofoz Cawn, by which to judge whether it wou'd be better for him to keep the Country in his own hands and give a Security to the Company for five & a half Lack of Rupees; or to concur with us in letting it to Moodille, he to receive half the Revenues the Company half.

Now as he says not a Word of an answer from Mahofoz Cawn, we conclude that Mahofoz Cawn neither chusing to give the Company five and a half Lack nor to part with the Country out of his hands to any Renter, has wrote a Letter to the Nabob full of Complaints against Tetarapah Moodille, and represented him as a person unworthy to be trusted. And the Nabob too hastily espousing these Sentiments of his Brother's, declares his Disapprobation of Moodille, consenting only in General terms that we may dispose of it to any Person who can give a good Security. He knows at the same time that no other Person offers and that it wou'd be impossible for any one to produce a Security untill he shou'd be put in possession of the country, and be from thence enabled to raise a Credit so as to procure Security.

Mahofoz Cawn hopes that these Impediments thrown in our way will Stop our further Proceeding, and so the Country remain in his hands, for him to give the Nabob such a Share of the Revenues as he shall chuse to part with, and Squander away the rest, procuring no Benefit at all, to the Company, not even the Payment of his old Debt to them, contracted in Colonel Heron's time.

N.B. The Countries are let from 12th July, being the first day of the Year of Phasely.

But as we think this has been the Case long enough, and the Season for letting out the Countries is so very near, it is Resolv'd to close with Moodile without waiting even for Usoff Cawn's Answer concerning the Person mention'd in his Letter No. 147 to have offer'd twenty Lack of Rupees for as it must be intended the Company shou'd out of this twenty Lack bear all Expences, the Nett Revenue wou'd scarce amount to so much as Tetarapah Moodillee's Offer and we shou'd besides be upon no Certainty.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JUNE 1756.*—— [28D.]

Order'd that a Cowle be drawn out accordingly for Tetarapah Moodille upon the Terms of his Proposals recited in these minutes the 22d April last. Viz.t that he takes the Country for three Years, from the 12th July next, to pay for the first Year eleven Lacks of Rupees, for the Second Year twelve Lacks of Rupees, and for the third Year thirteen Lacks of Rupees: Security to be given three months after his Arrival in the Country.

Ordered also that the Following Clauses be inserted.

That Usoff Cawn the Nellour Subidar and the Company's Troops do stay with him untill he has given the Security.

And that we have Liberty to keep & Garrison Such and so many Forts of the Tinnevelly Country, as we shall judge necessary.

These Clauses will be an effectual Security against any such Designs on the part of Moodille, as the Nabob intimates a Suspicion of; As Usoff Cawn will be able to Stop the Execution of any Evil Intentions.

The President is desir'd to appoint Tetarapah Moodillee to meet the Committee on Mon[day] the 28th Instant, that the Cowle may then be reciprocally Sign'd.

Letter from Messrs. Call and Hume dated 11th Instant Read, containing their Report and Opinion of the Situation of Devecotah as to Defence, together with a Plan of some additional Works, and a Calculate of their Cost.

Order'd that it be deliver'd to the President and Council for them to give such Directions thereupon as to them shall seem proper.

GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
A.R. WYNCH.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.
ROBT. PALK.

AT A COMMITTEE MONDAY THE 28TH.

Present

GEORGE PIGOT ESQR. GOVERNOR PRESIDENT	
STRINGER LAWRENCE	HENRY POWNEY
ROBERT ORME	ALEXANDER WYNCH
WILLIAM PERCEVAL	ROBERT PALK.

A Cowle for the Tinnevelly Country conformably to the Minutes of last Committee having been drawn out, is now read as follows.

A Cowle granted by the Honble George Pigot Esqr. President and Governor of Fort St. George and the rest of the Gentlemen of the Committee to Tetarapah Moodillee, on the following terms and Conditions.

1st. Whereas Nabob Mahomed Ally Cawn Behauder, &c.a has assigned over to the English East India Company all the Tinnevelly Country, and Territories and places thereunto belonging, and the Revenues thereof for the Space of three years Commencing the 1st day July 1756. Now, the President & Committee of Fort St. George on behalf of the said Company, in consideration of the Rents hereinafter mention'd to be paid by the said Tetarapah Moodillee and other things to be perform'd and done by him do grant him this Cowle, and do hereby assign over to him the Rents and Revenues of the said Tinnevelly Country, and Territories thereunto belonging, and all Benefit and Advantage to arise thereby for the Space of three Years commencing the 1st day of July next.

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[28th.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JUNE 1756.*——

2nd. The said President and Committee do hereby promise and Agree, that the Troops now in the Tinnevelly Country, or such part thereof as he desires, with the Guns Ammunition and warlike Stores, shall remain there under the direction of the said Tetarapah Moodillee to be employed in governing the Country's and collecting the Revenues thereof.

3d. The said President and Committee do hereby promise and Agree, that in case any of the Pollygars, shou'd take up Arms, and refuse to pay the usual Duties to the Circar, if the Troops already in the Tinnevelly Country's shou'd not be Sufficient to Subdue them, they will send a larger Body of Troops for that purpose, and they do further Agree that the Troops already there, and those which may be sent hereafter Shall be supplied with sufficient Ammunition and Warlike Stores from time to time, as the Same may be wanted.

4th. In Consideration of the Indulgencies and Assistance hereinbefore Agreed to be granted to the said Tetarapah Moodilee, he does hereby promise and Engage, to pay unto the said President and Committee, or to such person as they shall appoint as a Rent for the said Tinnevelly Countries and in full Satisfaction for all the Revenues thereof Vizt., for the first Year of the said term of three Years herein before granted him, Commencing the 1st of July 1756, and Ending 30th June 1757, Eleven hundred thousand Arcot Rupees. For the second Year, thereof commencing 1st day of July 1757, and ending the 30th of June 1758. Twelve hundred thousand Arcot Rupees, And for the third and last Year thereof Commencing the 1st July 1758 and ending the 30th day of June 1759, Thirteen hundred thousand Arcot Rupees; The said Rent in each year to become due at two Several Kists or Terms of Payment, that is to Say, the 1st day of October, and the 1st day of March in every Year, at the first Kist, or 1st day of October in every Year One third part of the Yearly Rent shall become due, and shall all be paid in at three payments the last whereof Shall be made before the expiration of the month of December, And at the second Kist, or the 1st day of March in every Year, the remaining two third parts of the Yearly Rent shall become due, and shall all be paid also in three payments, the last whereof shall be made before the expiration of the month of June.

5. In case any part of the Revenues due to the Circar before the Commencement of this Cowle shoud be recoverable, the said Tetarapah Moodilee, does hereby promise and Engage to use his best Endeavors to collect in and receive the same, and render a just Account to the said President and Committee of all that Shall be so recover'd.

6th. The said Tetarapah Moodilee does hereby Promise and Engage, that besides the Rent herein before Agreed to be paid by him, he will also pay all the Charges of the Troops now Agreed to be left under his direction, in the said Tinnevelly Countries from the 1st July next, and also of those which may be Sent him, and also the Cost of the Ammunition, and Warlike Stores that may be lost or Expended by the said Troops whilst employed in the Service of the said Countrys.

7th. The said Tetarapah Moodilee doth hereby promise that he will forthwith set out to take possession of the said Country's, and that within three Months after his Arrival in the said Country's he will give good Security to the said President and Committee by Sufficient and responsible Soucars for the payment of the First Years Rent in manner before Stipulated, and that before the expiration of the first year he will give other good and Substantial Security by responsible Soucars for the payment of the second Years Rent, and like manner that before the Expiration of the Second Year he will give other good and Substantial Security by responsible Soucars for the payment of the third Years Rent.

8th. Notwithstanding any thing herein before Stipulat'd the said President and Committee do reserve to themselves the Liberty at all times or whenever they shall think proper to place Garrisons in all or any of the Forts in the said Tinnevelly Country and to withdraw the same again when and as often as they shall think fit.

In Witness whereof the said President and Committee have hereunto set their hands, and fix'd the said Company's Seal, and the Said Tetarapah Moodillee hath

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JUNE 1756.*—— [28TH.]

also set his hand and Seal in Fort St. George the 28th day of June in the Year of our Lord, One thousand Seven hundred and fifty Six.

Moodillee's Seal.

Compy's great Seal.

Sign'd. TETARAPAH MOODILLEE.
Sign'd GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE. HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME. ALEXANDER WYNCH.
WILLIAM PERCEVAL. ROBERT PALK.

Which being read to Tetarapah Moodilee in the Malabar Copy annex'd to the English and agreed to, are now reciprocally sign'd in two Copies, and Tetarapah Moodillee acquaints us he will set out to morrow for Arcot to wait upon the Nabob, and proceed with all Expedition from thence to Tinnevelly.

Ordered that a copy of the foregoing Agreement be immediately dispatch'd to the Nabob with a Letter desiring him not to detain Tetarapah Moodilee as the time presses, but immediately to give him a Saned upon the same Terms as our Cowle or else to send us one.

And as Tetarapah Moodillee has engaged to make his Payments of Rent to us, It is Agreed to write to the Nabob that we will Secure to him the half of all the Revenues we may receive, reserving the other half to the Company.

Two Letters from Mahomed Usoff Cawn dated 30th May & 11th June Read, as Enter'd No. 166 & 167 advising that the Arrears due to the Company's Seapoys under him, and Mahofoz Cawn in the Tinnevelly Country amount to two Lack of Rupees and recommending in Case the Country shou'd be let to Tetarapah Moodillee that an order be given for him to pay the Arrears.

As Mahofoz Cawn has receiv'd the whole Revenues of the Tinnevelly Country for the present Year and likewise collected large Sums from the Polygars, from whom he is Still levying Contributions. It is but reasonable that we insist on his discharging all Arrears and Pay that Shall be due to the Troops on the 12th July next, from which day they will be paid by Tetarapah Moodilee. Agreed to write according to Mahomed Usoff Cawn and to desire the Nabob to give proper Orders on the Subject to Mahofoz Cawn.

GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME
AR. WYNCH.
WILLM PERCEVAL.
ROBT. PALK.

Receiv'd a Letter from Mr. deLeyrit to the President dated 26th Instant, Enter'd in the French Correspondence No. 38. TUESDAY THE 29TH

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

GEORGE PIGOT ESQR GOVERNOR PRESIDENT
STRINGER LAWRENCE HENRY POWNEY
ROBERT ORME ALEXANDER WYNCH
WILLIAM PERCEVAL ROBERT PALK.

Letter from the Nabob as entered No. 165, in the Country Correspondence, Read, advising that Murtaz ally Cawn lately sent his Vakeel with Proposals of Accommodation

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[29TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JUNE 1756.*——

and at length had consented to pay the following Sums, amounting very nearly to the one Lack of Pagodas he agreed in February to pay Major Kilpatrick. Vizt

		Rupees	Pagodas.
Comm 12TH Febry.	A Bill on the Soucars for	100,000	„ „
	Orders on certain Killedars for Fees due to him.	25,000	„ „
	Orders on his Renters of the District of Cammam.		64,660·3/16
	Rups.	125,000 ℔	64,660·3/16

One hundred & twenty five thousand Rupees and sixty four thousand Six hundred & Sixty Pagodas and three Sixteenths.

On Condition that his five following Requests shou'd be granted.

First, that Tootepet and Agerum which he before demanded as a Jageer, be farm'd to him, he paying to the Nabob the annual Rent of Seven thousand* Saudetulla Cawn Pagodas for Tootepet, and eleven thousand Rupees for Agerum.

* 5 ℔ ct. better than Star.

Second, that three Villages be granted as a Jageer to Zaganeel Abadin Cawn.

Thirdly, that the Nabob give him (Murtaz ally Cawn) a paper of Confirmation in his Government of Veloor, forgive him the Taxes and Fees of the Phousdary for the time past, and not demand any in future, also that he assist him against his Enemies.

Fourthly, that he have a Letter of Indulgence from the English.

And fifthly that the Fort of Chettoor and the Jageer of Masheroot be given him after the Disturbances are over.

The Nabob at the same time gives it as his Opinion that in case we judge we shall have an Opportunity of attacking the Fort of Veloor, the accommodation offer'd shou'd not be accepted, as it will in all respects be more advisable to root out Murtaz ally Cawn.

The Committee cannot determine upon the Possibility of an Expedition against Veloor until the Arrival of some advices from Europe. In order therefore to gain time it is Agreed to write the Nabob to give Murtaz ally Cawn to understand, as from himself, that he imagines the English will insist previously to all Agreements on a Reimbursement of the Expences of the March of their Troops to Veloor in February last.

Mr. Robert Orme Commissary now lays before the Committee the Accounts of Camp Disbursements for the Months of January February March and April last with the following Report.

To the Honble George Pigot Esqr. President and Governor &ca. Gentlemen of the Committee for Country Affairs.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

The last Report which I did myself the Honor to present to you, included my Remarks on the Disbursements at Camp, untill the End of December.

On these Accounts for the months of January, February, March & April I find no Charge which appears to me extraordinary, excepting that in the month of February Lieutenant Frazer and in the month of April Lieutenant Girtler commanding a Detachment, are both paid Seven days Batta, at the rate of six Rupees ℔ day, whereas their Batta as Lieutenants is only four Rupees ℔ Day.

I have the honor to be with the most perfect Respect

Hoñble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedient and most
humble Servant

Madras
June 29th. 1756

Robert Orme Commissary.

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——*FORT S^T. GEORGE, JUNE 1756.*—— [29TH.]

The Committee imagine that the Mistake in the payment of Batta to Lieutenants Frazer & Gurtler after the Rate of Six Rupees a day instead of four, has proceeded from a wrong Understanding of the List of Field Batta contained in the Regulations of 30th November last, wherein it is Said a Lieutenant on a Seperate Command Shall have 6 Rupees a Day. By this we meant only that a Lieutenant commanding a Seperate Detachment, and immediately under our Orders Shou'd have such extraordinary Batta; not for marching a few men from one Garrison to another. To prevent such Mistakes in future, It is now made an Order that no Captain or Subaltern Officer although on a Separate Command do receive more than the usual Batta due to their Rank without particular Directions from the Governor of Fort S^t. George.

Letter from M^r. deLeyrit dated 26th June as Enter'd No. 38, in the Book of French Correspondence, Read, he passes over almost in Silence the Affair of Acherevaucum, where one of our Peons was kill'd by his People, and insists on the Importance of the Insult committed against him by our Seapoys taking Possession on the 24th March last of the Mosque at Cadapery.

For Answer to M^r deLeyrit's above Letter it is Agreed to Sum up in one compleat Recapitulation all the Arguments that have pass'd on both Sides concerning the Complaint made by M^r deLeyrit upon the Affair of Cadape[ery] and the Complaint made on our Part upon the Affair of Acherevaucum. Such a Detail will Sufficiently make it appear that no Injury at all was done to the French by our Seapoys taking Possession of an uninhabited Mosque at Cadapery, and that an Insult of so high a Nature was committed against the English by the killing one of our Peons at Acherevaucum as we can never cease to insist on Satisfaction for.

Order'd therefore that the Operations of our Commissaries with respect to the French Commissaries do remain Suspended, and that they continue to give their Attention to the Preservation of our Rights over the Contested Districts and to the Relief of the Inhabitants from the Oppressions of the French.

The Recent Instances of their Oppressions mention'd in these Minutes the 10th & 22d Instant are ordered to be represented to M^r. deLeyrit in the Letter to be now wrote him.

Receiv'd the following Letter from Robert Clive Esqr.

To the Hoñble George Pigot Esq^R.
and the Gentlemen of the Select Committee.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

Your Instructions shall be comply'd with, I have already Sent orders for the Lascars employ'd on board his Majesty's Squadron to be Struck off the Company's Pay-Rolls from the time they embarked.

The men of Captains Polier & Gaupp's Companies Shall be sent to Madras by the first Sea Conveyance, and with them the Deserter belonging to Captain Gauppes Company under a proper Guard.

I will give orders for the Entertainment of all such Lascars as can do the Company any Service, and am with Respect

Hoñble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedient hble Servant

Fort St David
25th June 1756.

Robert Clive.

Captain Pye writes from Arcot that he has receiv'd News that Corporal Glen and the Centinel Bradfield who deserted lately from Chetteput have been taken up by the French and carried into Pondichery.

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[29TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JUNE 1756.*——

Agreed that Mr. Clive be advis'd of this Intelligence and directed to acquaint us whether those two Men are return'd to Fort St. Davids, conformably to the Articles of the Cartel, or not; and in General to advise us of the names, and time of Arrival, of all Deserters returned from Pondichery, that we may be enabled to make the proper Representations to Mr. deLeyrit when he fails to comply with the Stipulations of the Cartel; and to avoid on the other hand all ill grounded Complaints.

The following Letter from Captain Lee Read.

To the Honble George Pigot Esqr
President & Governor and the Gentlemen
of the Committee of Correspondence.

Honble Sir & Sirs

I have receiv'd the honor of your letters of the 11th & 14th Instant, and shall act agreable to those orders.

I wou'd have acquainted you sooner of a Vakeels being with the Nabob from Veloor had he not desir'd me to defer it, till he knew whether or no Murtaz ally Cawn was really desirous of an Accommodation, or only trifling as usual: The Nabob sent for me yesterday and told me the Articles were Sign'd on the part of the Killedar of Veloor and Sent to him, Copies of which he wou'd immediately enclose for your approbation, and take no Step farther in the Affair till he receiv'd your Answer, the Conditions are the Same as those offer'd in January, except that Toutepet, and Agerum, with their dependencies are not given up to Murtaz ally Cawn as his Property, but farm'd to him, during the Nabob's pleasure and for which he is to pay a yearly Revenue, Vizt., Eleven thousand Rupees for the Former and Seven thousand Pagodas for the latter. This is the purport of what the Nabob told me, and that he wou'd write you the particulars of the whole Affair.

A French Officer is arrived near Sautgoody from Salabat Jung's Army under an Escort of 25 Horse, there is a Black man in a Palankeen with him, the Officer has wrote the Nabob to desire a Passport thro' his Territory to Pondicherry, which is granted him; They read his name Padrise: I cannot hear there are any certain accounts that the French have quit Salabad Jung, Several Hurcarahs who set out from their Camp within these 25 days, assure me they still continue encamp'd within a few miles of the Grand Army.

I am with the greatest Respect
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Oblig'd and most
humble Servant
William Lee.

Arcot
21st June 1756.

The Nabob having himself wrote us a full Account of his Negotiations with Murtaz ally Cawn we have no orders to give to Captain Lee on that Subject.

The President acquaints the Committee that Captain Spears since his Arrival from Devecotah has made Application and Obtain'd Leave to resign the Service.

As Captain Spears repaid to Mr. Smith the six hundred Rupees demanded of him, the * Examination purpos'd to be made into his Conduct is rendered unnecessary by his Resignation.

* Committees 12th Janry.
26th Janry.
13th Febry.
& 6th May.

The President by desire of the Council communicates to the Committee a Report from the Committee of Accounts recommending that in the Several Disbursements of the out Garrisons, be more particularly described in the Monthly Accounts transmitted from thence, and that the Accounts of Disbursements for the Nabob, be countersign'd by his Killedar.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JUNE 1756.*—— [29TH.]

Ordered that Directions conformable to the Recommendation of the Committee of Accounts be sent to the Commanders of Trichenopoly and Changleput.

Letters from the Tripoty Talseadar and Renter, as enter'd No. 169 & 170 Read, inclosing a Bill of Exchange for six thousand (6000) Pagodas, in part of the June or third Kist of the present Year.

Order'd that Report be made thereof to the President and Council, that they may give Directions for the Receipt of the Money.

GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
AR. WYNCH.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.
ROBT. PALK.

Sent the following Letters to Robert Clive Esqr. Captain Caillaud & Captain Lee.

To ROBERT CLIVE ESQR. DEPUTY GOVERNOR OF FORT ST. DAVID.

Sir

We have receiv'd your Letter of the 25th. It has been reported to us that Glen Corporal and Benjamin Bradfield, Centinel, who deserted lately from Chetteput, have been taken up by the French and carried into Pondichery ; We desire you will acquaint us if they shou'd be return'd to you, and we wou'd have you in General inform us when any Deserters are Sent back to your Garrison conformably to the Stipulation of the Cartel.

Inclos'd is an order to be added to the Book of Military Regulations, and to be Observed by your Paymaster.

We are Sir

Your most Obedient Servants

GEORGE PIGOT—STRINGER LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY—ROBERT ORME—ALEXR. WYNCH—WILLIAM PERCEVAL—ROBERT PALK.

Fort St. George
30th. June 1756.

To CAPTAIN JOHN CAILLAUD.

Sir

In consequence of a Representation from the Committee of accounts, we must desire that when you transmit your monthly Papers, the Accounts of all Disbursements made on the Nabob's account may be sign'd both by You, and the Killedar. No. 34.

And also that in your several accounts you will describe each Disbursement as particularly as possible.

Inclos'd is an order to be added to the Book of Military Regulations and to be observ'd in your Garrison on all Occasions.

We are Sir

Your most Obedient Servants

GEORGE PIGOT &CA. COMMITTEE.

Fort St. George.
30th. June 1756.

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[29TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JUNE 1756.*——

To CAPTAIN WILLIAM LEE.

Sir

We have receiv'd your Letter of the 21st. The Nabob has forwarded to us Copies of Murtaz ally Cawn's Offers and Requests which do not as yet occasion any alteration in our former Orders to you regarding the Veloor Jageers.

Inclos'd is an order to be added to the Book of Military Regulations and to be observ'd by the Commissary, or whoever acts for him.

We are Sir
Your most Obedient Servants
GEORGE PIGOT &CA. COMMITTEE.

Fort St. George
30th. June 1756.

JULY 3D Letter receiv'd ℔ Ship Suffolk from the Secret Committee of the East India Company was this day Read, and the Proceedings had thereupon enter'd in the Minutes of a private Committee of this date.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

SUNDAY THE 4TH

GEORGE PIGOT ESQR.	GOVERNOR PRESIDENT
STRINGER LAWRENCE	HENRY POWNEY
ROBERT ORME	ALEXR. WYNCH
WILLIAM PERCEVAL	ROBERT PALK

The following Letter just now receiv'd from Robert Clive Esqr. Read, with Copy of a Letter from Rear Admiral Watson to him and Translation of a Letter from Mr. de Leyrit to Mr. Watson.

To THE HOÑBLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQR.
AND THE GENTLEMEN OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

I have this moment receiv'd the inclos'd letter from Mr. Watson, accompanied with one from Mr. deLeyrit, Translate of which I now forward.

I cannot take upon me to give any advice upon so nice a Subject, on the one side our Acquiesence may sink us in the Opinion of the People of the Country, on the other it may serve to Strengthen our Alliance with the King of Tanjour on which much will depend in case of a Rupture between the two Nations.

I have refer'd Mr. Watson to your Honor &ca. and to his own Discretion.

It seems to me odd, that the Governor of Tranquebar shou'd not apply to the English for their Mediation.

Inclos'd you will receive some Intelligence.

I am with Respect
Hon'ble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedient hble Servant
ROBERT CLIVE.

Fort St. David.
2d July 1756.
9 O'Clock P.M.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JULY 1756.*—— [4TH]

To ROBERT CLIVE ESQR
DEPUTY GOVERNOR OF FORT ST. DAVID.

Sir

The inclos'd is a Letter I receiv'd about one o'Clock, it was brought by a Cataraman [*sic*] fellow, who said it was given him by some Person in Fort St. David. I have just now been able to get a Translation of it; And as it appears to me a little extraordinary the Danes shou'd apply to the French for Assistance rather than us, I Send it you for your perusal & Opinion.

I beg the favor of you to return the Letter to Night or very early to morrow morning, as it will be necessary I Shou'd write some answer.

I am Sir
Your most Obedient
humble Servant
CHARLES WATSON.

Kent
Fort St. David's
Road 5 o'Clock
2d. July 1756.

Sir

The Gentlemen of Council at Tanquebar [*sic*] having deputed to me an Officer with a Letter to explain to me the Melancholy Situation in which they find themselves, and the need they stand in of immediate Assistance against the People of the Country, who are ready to form the Siege of that Place.

The alliance which Subsists between my Nation and theirs does not permit me to refuse the Succour which they have demanded and of Consequence I Shall not lose a moment of time in dispatching the Ship Galat'ree with a Detachment of Military and Seapoys.

I thought that in the present Circumstances it was proper to give you this advice. I have the honor to be with the most perfect Respect

Sir, Your most Obedient and
most humble Servant
DUVAL DE LEYRIT.

Pondichery
1st. July 1756.

The Committee not having before receiv'd the least Information of this Difference between the King of Tanjour & the Danes think it proper to make some Enquiry on the Subject from the Tanjour Vakeel, who being accordingly desir'd to attend, acquaints the Committee that he has only heard in General that the Difference is occasion'd by an attempt of the Danes to Support by Force of Arms a Polygar of the Tanjour Country against the King. Whether this is the real Cause or not, it is Somewhat Singular that the Gentlemen at Tanquebar, shou'd chuse to apply to the French for Assistance, rather than to the English, and not less extraordinary that the King of Tanjour Shou'd engage in an Enterprize against Tanquebar, without apprizing us. As Mr. deLeyrit has given publick notice to Mr. Watson that the Armament he is embarking is destin'd for the Relief of that Place, the Committee judge they cannot have any pretence for desiring the Admiral to stop the Ship; At the same time it is much to be fear'd the French will Seize the Opportunity of this Junction with the Danes to form to themselves some new Establishments at the Expence of the King of Tanjour, and we see no Method of endeavouring to prevent this So eligible as the using our Interposition to put a Stop if possible to hostilities, by recommending to both Parties to enter upon an Amicable Accommodation of their Dispute, and so render the Assistance of the French to Tranquebar unnecessary.

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[4th.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JULY 1756.*——

Ordered that Letters conformably to the above Determinations be immediately dispatch'd to Rear Admiral Watson, the Governor & Council of Tranquebar, the King of Tanjour, & Robert Clive, Esqr.

GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
A^R. WYNCH.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.
ROBT. PALK.

Sent the following Letters to Rear Admiral Watson, the Governor and Council of Tranquebar, and Robert Clive Esqr, pursuant to the above Resolutions.

To CHARLES WATSON ESQ^R. REAR ADMIRAL OF THE RED AND COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF HIS MAJESTY'S SQUADRON IN INDIA.

Sir

We have receiv'd this moment from Colonel Clive a Copy of your Letter to him dated the 2^d of this Month and Copy of M^r. deLeyrit's to you of the 1st. As M^r. Clive mentions his having refer'd you to our Opinion, we delay not to communicate to You our Sentiments on the Occasion.

After the publick Notice given you by M^r. deLeyrit that the Destination of his Ship Galetea is to carry an Assistance of Military & Seapoys to the Succour of the Danish Settlement of Tranquebar we think that we cannot desire you to oppose her Passage. We are at this time writing to the King of Tonjour [*sic*]; and the Gentlemen of Tranquebar to endeavor if possible to finish the Differences between them by the way of Accommodation.

We are Sir
Your most Obedient Servants
GEORGE PIGOT &C^A. COMMITTEE.

Fort S^t. George.
4th. July 1756.

To THE HOÑBLE HANS GEORGE KROG ESQ^R. GOVERNOR AND THE GENTLEMEN OF THE COUNCIL OF FORT DANSBORG AT TRANQUEBAR.

Gentlemen

We have heard with great Concern of a Difference that has arisen between you and the King of Tanjour, and that you have applied to the Governor of Pondichery for an Armed Force to assist you.

Considering, Gentlemen, the Tranquility which at present Subsists in this Country, we think it wou'd have been more eligible to have try'd first the Way of Accommodation and as there are the Strongest Tyes of Friendship between our two Nations, and we are also in strict Alliance with the King of Tanjour you might have availed yourselves of our Good Offices which you might have been persuaded we Shou'd most readily have employed.

Even now, Gentlemen, we are writing to the King of Tanjour to endeavor to Settle this Difference amicably, and to your Satisfaction in which we flatter ourselves we Shall Succeed, and therefore we beg you will avoid the Commencing of Hostilities, the which might not improbably involve this Coast in fresh Troubles.

We are Gentlemen
Your most Obedient humble
Servants

GEORGE PIGOT—STRINGER LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY—ROBERT ORME—ALEXANDER WYNCH—WILLIAM PERCEVAL—ROBERT PALK.

Fort S^t. George.
4th. July 1756.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JULY 1756.*—— [4TH.]

To ROBERT CLIVE ESQR.,
DEPUTY GOVERNOR OF FORT ST. DAVID.

Sir

We inclose open for your Perusal a Letter to Mr. Watson, which will make you acquainted with the advices receiv'd by the Company's Ships Suffolk & Stormont.

This moment we have receiv'd your Letter of the 2d. with the Copy of Mr. Watson's to You, and of Mr. De Leyrit's to him. We inclose our Letters to Mr. Watson, and to the Governor & Council of Tranquebar, open for your Perusal. Our Letter to the King of Tanjour we forward direct.

You will send off our Letters to Mr. Watson, and forward that to Tranquebar as soon as you have perus'd them.

We are Sir
Your most Obedient Servants

Fort St. George
4th July 1756.

GEORGE PIGOT &CA., COMMITTEE.

Dispatch'd also a Letter on the same subject to the King of Tanjour which is entered No. 175 in the Country Correspondence.

Sent a Letter of this date from the President to Mr. De Leyrit as entered in the French Correspondence No. 39. 5TH.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

GEORGE PIGOT ESQR.,	GOVERNOR PRESIDENT	MONDAY THE 5TH.
STRINGER LAWRENCE	HENRY POWNEY	
ROBERT ORME	ALEXANDER WYNCH	
WILLIAM PERCEVAL	ROBERT PALK.	

The Advices receiv'd from the Secret Committee being further considered and a Comparison made between the Number of Recruits we have to expect, and the Number the French are likely to receive; the Committee unanimously think it incombent on them to Settle, while there is yet Peace, every Point, which if left unsetled, may in Case of a War, draw off a part of our attention from more important Concerns. For this reason, as well as in consideration of the Money that is to be receiv'd, it is Agreed to recommend to the Nabob to finish the Agreement with Murtaz ally Cawn upon the terms recited in the Minutes of last Committee excepting only an Amendment which we think Shou'd be made in the third Article. The Nabob ought not to promise to release Murtaz ally Cawn from the Payment of the usual Fees and Taxes of the Phousdary for the time to come, as that will be rendering him independent. Those Fees and Taxes for the time past may be forgiven him in consideration of the Sum to be now paid, but he shou'd be oblig'd to pay annually for the time to come some sum (to be Stipulated in the Agreement) as an Acknowledgement of the Nabob's Superiority. Ordered that a Letter be wrote to the Nabob accordingly.

The President acquaints the Committee that he lately receiv'd Itelligence [*sic*] that upon some parts of the Coast near to Fort St. David there is Such a Depth of Water, that not only Merchant Ships but even the Ships of the Squadron might come near enough to be protected by Batteries of heavy Cannon if Such were there erected. That Judging Such a Work might be useful in the present Situation of Affairs he had consulted with Mr. Engineer Brohier who gave it as his Opinion that the erecting a Battery or two in proper Places wou'd not be very expensive and that they wou'd answer the desir'd End. The Committee considering the Intelligence

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[5TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JULY 1756.*——

receiv'd from Europe do judge the Execution of such a Work to be most highly necessary, and the President is accordingly desir'd to direct Mr. Clive to give the necessary Orders to Mr. Engineer Call without Loss of time.

GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
AR. WYNCH.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.
ROBT. PALK.

The President Sent the following Letter to Robert Clive Esqr. Pursuant to the Resolution of the foregoing Committee.

To ROBERT CLIVE ESQR.
DEPUTY GOVERNOR OF FORT ST. DAVID.

Sir

The Gentlemen of the Committee thinking with me that a Battery or two erected as near the Sea side as possible at Fort St. David with a few large cannon mounted thereon wou'd not only effectually Secure any trading Shipping you may have in your Road in case of a War, but even be a protection to the Ships in the Squadron Shou'd a French Fleet arrive that they judge an over Match for them. I have consulted Captain Brohier who thinks so likewise, and that the Expence will be inconsiderable. You will please therefore to direct Mr. Call to Set about this work as Soon as possible, and let the same be erected at Such place he judges most proper.

I am Sir
Your most Obedient Servant
GEORGE PIGOT.

Fort St. George.
7th. July 1756.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

GEORGE PIGOT ESQR. GOVERNOR PRESIDENT
STRINGER LAWRENCE — HENRY POWNEY
ROBERT ORME — ALEXANDER WYNCH
WILLIAM PERCEVAL — ROBERT PALK.

SATURDAY THE 10TH. The following Letter from the Governor and Council of Tranquebar Read.

To THE GOVERNOR AND HIS COUNCIL
AT FORT ST. GEORGE.

Gentlemens

Because we are invaded against all expectation from the King of Tanjour on a Barbarous maner with villyfying, burning, robbery and plyndering upon the Territory of our Royally Danish Company, in regard of which we have ask'd Assistance and Succouring from the Franchmen as the most nearest European Nation Seated unto us here, for so much the better to defend us against Said King. For this reason we make know this unto you as friends and Allies in Europa, to the

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JULY 1756.*—— [10TH.]

and that you not at all in the least manner will assist this Heathens against us being a Christian Nation, but rather adjuvate us to forward our rightious weapons against this unhuman People.

We remain with all Consideration
Gentlemens
Your most humble and most
Obedient Servants

H. G. KROG.
H. H. V. CASTONIERS.
F. C. HOYER.
J. H. GILLE.

Fort Dansborg
Jule the 4th. 1756.

The Committee having already wrote to the Gentlemen of Tranquebar and the King of Tanjour in hopes to finish the Dispute between them by an amicable Accommodation think it unnecessary to take any immediate Notice of the foregoing Letter.

The following Letters from Robert Clive Esqr. Read.

To THE HOÑBLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQR.
AND THE GENTLEMEN OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs,

I have receiv'd your letter of the 30th June, and upon Enquiry found that Corporal Glen, and Benjamin Bradfield Centinel, were return'd the 8th of last Month, & Shall not fail informing you when any Deserters are sent back, Agreable to the Stipulations of the Cartel.

John Baptista Trimien came here two days ago, Says he has been out of the French Service these 2 Years, during which time he serv'd one Meer Saib a moor man, please to give your Directions about him.

The order sign'd by the Hoñble the President, Shall be added to the Book of Military Regulations agreable to your Instructions. I am with Respect

Hoñble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedt. Servant

ROBERT CLIV.

Fort St. David
3d July 1756.

To THE HONBLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQR.
AND THE GENTLEMEN OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

I have receiv'd your favor of the 4th inclosing two Letters open for Mr. Watson, and one open for the Governor of Tranquebar, all which have been forwarded agreable to your Directions.

I am much oblig'd to you for the Intelligence contained in one of Mr. Watson's Letters, Intelligence of a very serious Nature indeed, which calls for every Expedient in our Power, to ward off the Blow so much dreaded by Gentlemen of the Committee at home.

It is recommended to us particularly to avoid Hazardous Enterprizes, were hazardous Enterprizes ever undertaken by men of Prudence? but in desperate Circumstances, and can there be a more effectual method thought of to Save our Settlements from the Hazardous Enterprizes of our Enemies, than by the vigorous Assistance of his Majesty's Squadron, which give me leave to say ought to be reinforced by all the ways and means possibly in our Power, the Protector is wrote for (and if

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[10TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JULY 1756.*——

there be time) cannot two of the Bombay Grabs be sent for likewise, cannot one or two of the Coast and Bay Ships where they arrive be fitted out occasionally, I am sure there never was a time which required more vigorous Measures.

Whether Mr. Watson's Letter to Mr. deLeyrit has had any effect, or whether the Affrightened Second of Tranquebar had misrepresented Matters in a worse Light than what they really were, I know not, but it is certain the Design of sending a Reinforcement to that Place is entirely dropt, tho' another of a more important Nature, is carrying on, I mean the embarkation Yesterday evening of Mr. Law, and five other Officers, with 150 Military for Metchlepetam, I have not heard that the Ship is Sailed.

Give me leave to offer to your Consideration the State of this Garrison as to Provisions, which at present is stock'd with nothing but Rice & Firewood, Arrack a very necessary Article there is none, and as to other particulars, I must beg leave to refer you to an Indent for 6 Months Provisions for the Garrison of Fort St. David, sent by the Gentlemen some time ago, You will be pleased to give what orders you think proper, it is certain the Place runs no Risque but from the want of Provisions.

I Suppose the Admiral will inform you the Salisbury spoke with a French Ship this Morning from the Mauritius.

Inclo'sd you will receive Copy of a Letter from Monagee, & Some Intelligence.

I am with Respect
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedient Servant
ROBERT CLIVE.

Fort St. David.
6 July 1756.

A Vessel being under Dispatch for Bengal, Ordered that a Copy of a Letter from the Secret Committee dated 22d December, 1755, be transmitted to Governor Drake for his Information of the Force which may be expected to arrive this Year on the part both of the English and French representing to him at the same time, that as it is most probable this Armament of the French is design'd against the Company's Settlements on this Coast, or at least that it will appear first appear at Pondichery we think it is unnecessary and wou'd be imprudent to Send him as yet any Reinforcement from hence, but that he may depend on our Assistance if there shou'd be Occasion.

The President acquaints the Committee that having receiv'd Information that Captain Lee is so much indispos'd as to be unable to attend the Charge of the Army he appointed Captain Charles Campbell to releive him, giveing Permission to Captain Lee either to retire into Arcot Fort, or to come hither, if his Strength will permit.

Letter from the Commissaries Read, inclosing their Accounts of Expences from 1st January to 30th June last. Ordered that Mr. Commissary Orme do Examine the said Accounts, and make his Report to the Committee.

GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
AR WYNCH.
WILLM PERCEVAL.
ROBT PALK.

Sent the following Letter to the Honble Roger Drake Esqr President of Fort William, pursuant to [*Tama in the original*] Resolution of the Foregoing Committee.

To THE HONBLE ROGER DRAKE ESQR
PRESIDENT & GOVERNOR OF FORT WILLIAM.

Sir

We inclose the Letter we receiv'd from the Secret Committee by the Ships lately arriv'd.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JULY 1756.*—— [10TH.]

And by Intelligence brought within these few days from the Islands to Pondicherry we have reason to expect that the Force mention'd by the Secret Committee join'd by some additions from Mauritius will very soon appear on this Coast.

Their Design is most probably against the Company's Settlements on the Coast of Choromandel; We are preparing in the best manner possible for their Defence, but while there is a likelyhood of our being attack'd by so vast a Superiority we see it impossible to Send off any part of our force to your present Reinforcement; We hope indeed that you will not have Occasion for it as we think it improbable they will make any attempt your way untill they Shall have first try'd their Success against us, the moment we hear of their Arrival and Destination, we will give you the earliest Intelligence, and all the Assistance in our Power, Shou'd it be necessary.

We are Sir
Your most Obedient
humble Servants

Fort St. George
11th July 1756.

GEORGE PIGOT &C^A COMMITTEE.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

GEORGE PIGOT ESQR. GOVERNOR PRESIDENT
STRINGER LAWRENCE HENRY POWNEY
ROBERT ORME ALEXANDER WYNCH
WILLIAM PERCEVAL ROBERT PALK.

MONDAY THE 12TH.

The President acquaints the Committee that a French Sloop arriv'd at Pondichery the 6th Instant from the Islands, and it is strongly reported their Fleet is soon expected, but the most particular account he can get of the Intelligence brought by this Sloop is contain'd in a Private Letter he produces to the Board

Honble Sir

Just this moment I receiv'd a Letter from an Acquaintance of mine at Pondichery, that the day before Yesterday arriv'd a Sloop from the Isle of France, and brought the news of 12 Men of War soon a coming, 4 belonging to the King, and 8, to the Company, and besides 2 Frigates more, all full and crowded with men.

I am
Honble Sir &c^a &c^a

The Information contain'd in the above Letter so nearly corresponds with that given us by the Secret Committee, that we think there is great Reason to conclude it is true, and that a Fleet may very soon be expected at Pondichery. The Committee therefore think it necessary to proceed without Delay to make the best Dispositions possible for the Defence of the Company's Several Forts and Settlements on this Coast which will undoubtedly be the first and principal Scene of Action because here is the Chief Strength of both Nations.

Colonel Adlercron's Presence being thought necessary now takes his Seat at the President's Right hand, and the Intelligence from all Quarters having been communicated to him. It is first laid down by way of General Plan that just such a Number of Men be allotted to each Garrison as shall be judg'd necessary for its Defence all the rest to be assembled at the Presidency of Fort St. George where the largest Force will be requir'd because of the unfinish'd State of the Fortifications and because of any Detached Service Should offer it is from hence the Draft will be most readily made, as all Resolutions must be here taken, Colonel Adlercron being on the Spot with us.

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[12TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JULY 1756.*——

The Situation of Fort St. David being considered, Colonel Adlercron and Colonel Lawrence give it as their Opinion that four hundred Military Rank and file, and about Sixty of the Train with the Seapoys that are now there will be Sufficient for its defence. There being at present four Companies of Military at Fort St. David containing about the number of four hundred men, and also so many of Captain Dillens's Company of Artillery as with the addition of the twenty five Men lately disciplined by Captain Hislop will compleat the Number of the Train, It is Agreed with the Concurrence of Colonel Adlercron to move the King's Regiment and Train hither. But we see no Secure Method of transporting them without the Assistance of the Squadron; Marching overland they wou'd be expos'd to be intercepted from Pondichery as their Number is but small Since the Detachment was sent on board his Majesty's Ships; and we are the more inclined to request of Admiral Watson to transport them hither with all their Guns, Stores &ca. as we think his Presence, at least for a few days, very requisite, in order that we may deliberate together upon the advices we have receiv'd and form a Judgment whether it will be best for the Service that he endeavour to meet the Expected French Fleet or avoid the Risque of being overpowr'd by too great an Inequality of Force, because it may be imagin'd that as the French know exactly the Strength of our Squadron they will not appear without a great Superiority. If it shou'd be agreed to fall in with them, Mr. Watson may return with all Expedition to the Southward having first applied his Ships with their Europe Stores lately arriv'd and which we have no method of conveying to him.

It is therefore unanimously Agreed to request of Mr. Watson to receive on board the Regiment and Train and proceed hither as soon as possible, leaving at Fort St. David's for the use of the Garrison four hundred Barrels of Powder, Sixty Casks of Salt provisions, and thirty or forty Leagers of Arrack if they can be spared, all which shall be replaced here.

Colonel Adlercron will Send the necessary orders to Lieutenant Colonel Bagshaw for embarking the Regiment, and it is now Agreed that Directions conformable to our above Intentions be sent to Robert Clive Esqr. with this further Instruction that in case of the appearance of an Enemy we do not mean to defend Cuddalore, that therefore all valuable Effects, Millitary Stores and whatever can be useful to an Enemy be kept in readiness to be remov'd at a Short Warning.

Vizagapatam, Devecotah, Arcot and Changleput having each one Company of Military; besides Seapoys, Trichenopoly two Companies of Military and twelve hundred Seapoys, It is judg'd they will be able to make a good Defence, and Agreed to keep them on their present Establishment, the rather as it is not to be imagined an Enemy will make any Attempt against them without having first tried their Success against our Principal Settlements.

And it is now further Order'd That a Wall be raisd with all Expedition upon the old Foundation of the intended Fortifications to be supported with Earth for a Rampart of the same thickness with that which has been lately carried on, so that Guns may be mounted, and the Town be well Secur'd, till the works can be finish'd, in the manner they are intended.

That the Tank under the new Bastion be immediately cleaned and fill'd with Water, and proper care be taken of wood, Provisions, Arrack &c by the Gentlemen mention'd in the List enter'd hereafter.

That the Nabob be desir'd to close without delay with Murtaz ally Cawn that the Army may move in from Arcot.

That Captain Campbell be directed to hold the Army in readiness to move as soon as the Nabob Shall acquaint him he has finish'd with Murtaz ally Cawn; in the mean time that he send in the Eighteen pounders with their Ammunition, and in General all Stores that will not be wanted for his March.

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——*FORT S^T. GEORGE, JULY 1756.*—— [12TH.]

And that Captain Gaupp do also hold his Company in readiness to move hither at a moments Warning, with all the Seapoys from the Contested Districts except a few to be left for the Defence of the Fort of Carangoly.

The following Letter from Rear Admiral Watson Read, in answer to that wrote him the 4th Instant, containing the Intelligence receiv'd from the Secret Committee.

Gentlemen

I was yesterday evening favor'd with your two Letters of the 4th Instant, The advices you are pleased to communicate to me are such, that I think we cannot be too much upon our Guard; so large a Force as the French is Said to have sent from Port L'Orient must necessarly [*sic*] allarm the Gentlemen of the Secret Committee at home; 'tis very extraordinary we did not send a Squadron after them on the first notice of their Sailing, I am therefore sometimes inclined to think the Admiralty must have receiv'd very different Intelligence with regard to the Strength of those Ships, or they wou'd Surely have sent me out a reinforcement. After all I am willing to believe the French have not sent such a considerable Force out, but if it Shou'd be so, I can only say I will endeavor to do my best with the few Ships I have.

The Squadron being in the greatest want of Naval Stores I must desire you will order one of the Company's Ships to bring them here, for at this critical Juncture I don't think proper to spare a Man of War for that Service. Tis very unacountable the Ships that bring out Stores and Provisions dont't first call here.

I am Gentlemen
Your most Obedient
humble Servant
CHARLES WATSON.

Kent
Fort S^t. Davids Road
7th July 1756.

As we may expect to see the Squadron here Shortly in consequence of our above Resolutions it is unnecessary to consider of any means of Conveying the Stores to him.

Receiv'd the following Letter from Robert Clive Esqr.

To THE HONBLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQ^R.
AND THE GENTLEMEN OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE.

Honble Sir & Sirs

In a former Letter of yours dated the 23^d June, I receiv'd orders to Strike off the Companys Pay rolls, those Lascars that were employ'd on board his Majesty's Squadron, in consequence of which their Wifes and Families are Starving & I have been oblig'd at last to give them one Week's Pay.

I have acquainted M^r. Watson therewith and the same time inclos'd him the Paragraph of your Letter, his Answer is as follows.

"I heartily wish it were in my power to abate the Cries of the Lascars Wives. "Besides the positive orders, I receiv'd from the Admirality [*sic*] who laid me under "an Injunction never to enter a Lascar on board the Squadron; You will be pleas'd to "consider the Condition of the obligation on which I took them, no otherwise than "as I was unwilling to distress the Company's Affairs on Shore in draining Colonel "Adlercron's Regiment, you will further consider for whose Service I took them, if "for the Company's, where can be the hardship in paying them Wages? If the "King finds them Victuals. In this particular I am affraid I have exceeded the "Bounds of my Orders, but farther I cannot go. If I return them on Shore the "Consequence will be that I must make a larger Demand on Colonel Adlercron's "Regiment, or the Company's Troops."

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[12TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JULY 1756.*——

You will please to Send me your Instructions on this Subject; I am with Respect

Hoñble Sir and Sirs
Your most Obedient
humble Servant
ROBERT CLIVE.

Fort St. David
10th July 1756.

P.S. The Admiral writes me the Snow has Spoken with a Large Ship to the Southward, but know's not what she is.

Agreed that Mr. Clive do advance a part of the Lascars pay to their Families on Shore, and that the affair be settled with Mr. Watson on his arrival here.

Letter from Mr. Commissary Maunsell Read, inclosing General Musters of the Troops in Camp, and of the Garrison of Arcot. Captain Lee writes to the President that his disorder increasing he has been oblig'd to remove into the Fort leaving the Command of the Army in Camp to the eldest Officer Captain Lieutenant Godwin.

The President acquaints the Committee that Ebramally Cawn a Person of some Distinction lately Sent by Salabad Jung to the Nabob, after having waited on the Nabob at Arcot, arriv'd here three or four days ago. He brought a Letter from Salabad Jung to the King of England, and another to the King of France, with Copies of them, the Translations of which are Entered in the Country Correspondence after the Nabob's Letter No. 174. He acquaints the President that Salabad Jung's Letters to him are coming by another Person who may be shortly expected, and desires that our Troops may be in readiness to march. By the Nabob's Letter abovemention'd we understand that it is Salabad Jung's Intention to give him the Government of the Northward Provinces (before assign'd to the French) for the Maintainance of the Troops He (The Nabob) and We may send to Salabad Jung's Assistance.

The Intelligence lately receiv'd of the French Fleet expected from Europe makes it doubtful how far we shall be able to conform to the Resolution made in private Committee the 15th June, to Send a Detachment to Join Salabad Jung, although we do now, as we did then, regard it as a Step most highly necessary for the Security of the Trade of the English on this Coast, which will be Expos'd to utter Ruin if Mr. Bussy by making a Stand against Salabat Jung Shou'd reduce him to his own Terms. It is however unnecessary to proceed to further Debate on this Subject untill the Arrival of the Person shortly expected from Salabad Jung with full Instructions by which time also we may have further Lights or fresh Intelligence to guide us.

Agreed to dispatch a Pattamar to Bombay to advise the Select Committee there, of the Intelligence contain'd in the Secret Committee's Letter to us dated 22d. December last, and as it is of the utmost Consequence to the Security of the Company's Settlements in India that Admiral Watson shou'd be enabled to keep the Sea and oppose the expected Fleet of the French it is incumbent on us to use our utmost Endeavors to reinforce him. The Protector we have already wrote for to the Gentlemen at Bombay and it is now Agreed to recommend to them to send also the Revenge, a new twenty Gun Ship built there. The Junction of these two Vessels woud we judge be of very material Service as they wou'd be a match for some of the French Indiamen and more especially prevent their geting into Pondichery under favor of the Engagement.

GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
AR. WYNCH.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.
ROBT. PALK.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JULY 1756.*—— [12th]

Disposition for the better care of Provisions, Stores &ca for the use of the Garrison of Fort St George.

Boats and Cattemerans	Mr. Powney
Bricklayers, Cooleys, Lascars, Carpenters	Mr. Brohier
Firewood	Mr. Perceval
Arrack	Mr. Smith
Salt Fish	Mr. Brooke
Water	Mr. Walsh
Rice	Mr. Orme
Oil	Mr. Smith
Candles	Mr. Bourchier
Military Stores	Mr. Bourchier
Intrenching Tools	Mr. Rumbold

Sent the following Letters to Admiral Watson, Robert Clive Esqr. & Captain Charles Campbell in consequence of the Resolutions of the foregoing Committee.

To Charles Watson Esqr. Rear Admiral of the Red and Commander-in-Chief of his Majesty's Squadron in India.

Sir

We have receiv'd the favor of your Letter dated 7th. July.

We have now receiv'd advice which came originally from Pondichery that a Fleet consisting of 12 Sail, the most of which are Ships of Force will Shortly appear from the Islands, this news is a Confirmation to us of the advices receiv'd from the Secret Committee, and a Confirmation that those Gentlemen have judg'd Right in thinking the French will make a vigorous Effort against us on this Coast.

It is our Opinion that this Effort will if began with any Success against you at Sea, be push'd by them into an attempt against this Place by Land, the Fortifications of Fort St David with a proper Garrison will we think Sufficiently secure that Place.

We are now taking all the Measures that our best Judgment can dictate for our defence, amongst these the first and most necessary appears to be the immediate Removal of his Majesty's Regiment and Artillery to Join our Troops here.

We have considered of the measures to execute this Intention in the safest and most Expeditious manner; to move them by Land woud Subject them to the imminent Risque of being attack'd by a Superior Force from Pondichery, to Send the Company's Ships to St. David to return with them, woud be hazardous & take up too much Time, as well as render their Passages to China precarious.

We therefore are to request of you, as the properest method, immediately to take on board your Squadron all his Majesty's Troops as well Regiment as Artillery, under the Command of Colonel Bagshaw, with their Stores &ca and that you will proceed with them to Madras as soon as possible.

Arriv'd here you will be able to take in the Stores with more Expedition than we can send them to you, and we shall have the Advantage of communicating and deliberating with you on the present critical Situation of Affairs.

On your Departure from Fort St David we Request that you will furnish Colonel Clive with four hundred Barrels of Gun Powder, and Sixty Casks of Salt Provisions for the Service of the Garrison, and you may depend on having the Powder, and as much as we can procure of Provisions, repaid to You on your Arrival here.

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[12TH.] ———*FORT ST. GEORGE, JULY 1756.*———

We shall also be oblig'd to you for Sparing Colonel Clive with what Arrack he requests of you, for the use of the Garrison we shall immediately replace it here.

We are Sir
Your most Obedient
humble Servants
GEORGE PIGOT &C^A COMMITTEE.

Fort St George
12th July 1756.

To ROBERT CLIVE ESQ^R.
DEPUTY GOVERNOR OF FORT S^T DAVID.

Sir

We have receiv'd your Letters of the 23^d and 6th Instant. We now inclose you a Letter to M^r. Watson, which after having perused you will Seal and deliver to him; This letter will explain to you our Determinations and Intentions, with which you will be pleased strictly to comply, as our present Circumstances will not admit of the least Deviation from the Plan We have laid down, We are of Opinion that the best method of Securing the Company's Property and Estate, is to assemble all the Force we can, in one Body, and the reasons are evident why this Assemblage shou'd be at the Presidency, and having consulted Colonel Adlercron and Col^l. Lawrence, they are of opinion that 400 men Rank and file, 60 of the Train of Artillery and 10 Companys of Seapoys, besides 170 Invalids, who may be very useful on Occasion, will be a Sufficient Force for your Garrison. You are to draw from the Garrison of Devecotah to make up the 400 Rank and file, and send us one Company of Seapoys without Arms.

In case of an Attack, we do not expect you will be able to protect Cuddalore, therefore all Valuable Effects and Military Stores and indeed whatever can be useful to an Enemy, shou'd be [iu] Readiness to be withdrawn.

We have desir'd M^r. Watson to leave 400 Barrels of Powder, 60 Cask of Salt Provisions, and what Arrack he can Spare, We Judge that between 30 or 40 Leagers will be Sufficient, some part of which no doubt may be purchas'd at S^t. David.

These with what you have in Store of Rice and Firewood, are the principal things mention'd in the Indent you refer to, Such others as you may Judge indispensibly necessary, as Oil, Candles &c you are to provide, the Bounds will Supply you with Cattle, on any Emergency.

We are Sir
Your most Obedient Servants
GEORGE PIGOT &C^A COMMITTEE.

Fort S^t. George
12th July 1756.

P.S. We have receiv'd your Letter of the 10th you may continue to advance part of the Lascar's Pay to their Families, and on the Admiral's Arrival, We will endeavor to Settle it.

Observing that you have made a large Demand for Musket Flints, We desire you will Apply to Colonel Bagshaw, and we Shall replace them here.

To CAPTAIN CHARLES CAMPBELL.

Sir

You are to hold yourself with the Army under your Command in Readiness to march upon the first Order you may Receive from the President or us. In the mean time you will send forward the two 18 Pounders with the most Burthensome Stores you have, and you will constantly employ the Dooleys you have in Sending in the Sick.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JULY 1756.*—— [12TH.]

If you can Raise any good Seapoys we desire you will, and Send them in here.

We are
Sir
Your most Obedient Servts.
GEORGE PIGOT &CA COMMITTEE.

Fort St. George
12 July 1756.

Sent the following Letter to the Select Committee at Bombay pursuant to the Resolution of last Committee. [13TH.]

TO THE HONBLE RICHARD BOURCHIER ESQR. PRESIDENT & GOVERNOR AND THE GENTLEMEN OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE AT BOMBAY.

Honble Sir & Sirs

We have receiv'd your Honor &cas Letter of the 19th May and as we have certain News of Balazarow (the Nanah's) moving towards his Capitol [*sic*] you lay more conveniently to correspond with him and we hope your Correspondence will be attended wth the Success we very heartily wish for, which is the Settling a firm Friendship with that Prince as we daily see fresh reason to desire the establishment thereof.

In a Letter we receiv'd by the Ships lately arriv'd from the Secret Committee of the East India Company is the following Intelligence.

"It can hardly be supposed that the French Nation will Submit to the Capture "of such a number of their Ships, as have been taken and are Continually bringing "into his Majesty's Ports without aiming a Blow where they can do it the most "Securely; where that may be done cannot at present be known, but we are under "great Apprehensions that the weight of it may fall upon the Company, especially as "we have receiv'd Information that Eleven of the French Company's Ships sail'd "from Port L'Orient the 19th of last Month with About three thousand men on board, "Six of the largest being only half loaded and carrying about Sixty Guns of different "Bores each, intended for a Guard or Convoy for the other five which are loaded as "usual. These Eleven Ships, with four that sail'd some time before make already "fifteen gone, and there is a Report they intend to Send some more. This whole "Force is probably destin'd for the Coast of Choromandel and Bengal, as we are "well assured no French Ships proceed to China this Season. An account of this "considerable Armament has been laid before the Administration, as well as the "General Situation of the Company's Affairs, and if any Measures Shall be agreed "upon by his Majesty's Ministers for the more effectual Support of the Company "before the Departure of these Ships, they shall be communicated to you, in the "mean time the use you are to make of the abovemention'd Information (which we "have too much Reason to believe is true) must be to Stand well upon your Guard, "and as our Presidency of Bengal is in the most Defenceless Condition you must "forthwith communicate this Intelligence to the Governor at Fort William, that he "with his Council may take the properest Measures for it's Security, and you are to "be aiding and Assisting therein as far as lies in your Power".

And by Intelligence brought within these few days from the Islands to Pondichery we have reason to expect that the Force mentioned by the Secret Committee to which no doubt some additions will be made at the Mauritius as all their Homeward bound Ships have been detain'd, will very soon appear on this Coast.

Their Design is most probably intended against the Company's Settlements on the Coast of Choromandel, We are preparing in the best manner for their Defence, and it will be a most fortunate Circumstance if the Reinforcement we have desir'd from Bombay arrives in Time, Shou'd they not have already Sailed, We most Strenuously repeat our Request that they may be Sent immediately, and that the Transports may be ordered to call at Negapatam for Intelligence.

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[13TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JULY 1756.*——

We are Unanimously of Opinion that if you send round the Protector and Revenge properly man'd, that these Ships Join'd to the present Squadron under Mr. Watson's Command will enable him if he is reinforced from England with only two Ships to oppose the Armament now prepar'd by the French, and thereby prevent the fatal Consequences which may fall on the Company's Settlements in India Shou'd he be defeated, or not able to keep the Sea; By this you will see Gentlemen how much we think it in your Power to prevent these fatal Effects.

The moment we hear of the Arrival and Destination of the Ships from the Islands we will give you the earliest Intelligence, and shou'd it be necessary we will reinforce you again by the Return of Mr. Watson.

We are
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedient
humble Servants

GEORGE PIGOT—STRINGER LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY—ROBERT ORME—ALEXANDER WYNCH—WILLIAM PERCEVAL—ROBERT PALK.

Fort St. George,
13th July 1756.

AT A COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY THE 14TH.

Present

GEORGE PIGOT ESQR. GOVERNOR PRESIDENT

STRINGER LAWRENCE	HENRY POWNEY
ROBERT ORME	ALEXANDER WYNCH
WILLIAM PERCEVAL	ROBERT PALK.

The President acquaints the Committee that upon Intelligence receiv'd last Night from the Governor & Council of Fort William of dangerous Disturbances rais'd in Bengal by the new Nabob, It was resolv'd in Council this morning to send thither a Reinforcement of two hundred Men under the Command of Major Killpatrick, and that Captain Lin, Captain Lieutenant Godwin, Lieutenant Erdman and Ensigns Vouga and Flaction being appointed for this Expedition, he had Sent them orders to repair immediately hither.

Agreed to dispatch a Pattamar immediately to Bombay to advise the Select Committee there of the Intelligence receiv'd from Bengal, and of the Draft of Men, it obliges us to make from hence, representing to them that it is by so much the more necessary we shou'd be reinforced to the utmost of their Power without loss of time.

And as this Garrison will be left very bare when the Detachment is gone for Bengal, it is Resolv'd to write Captain Campbell to march the Army hither without waiting for further Orders as soon as he Shall be acquainted that the Nabob has finish'd the Agreement with Murtazally Cawn.

Resolv'd also to represent again to the Nabob the necessity of his finishing that Agreement as soon as possible that he may be enabled to remove hither with the Army.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JULY 1756.*—— [14TH.]

The following Letters from Captain John Caillaud, & Captain Charles Campbell Read No. 30.

To the Honble George Pigot Esqr. President and
Governor &^ca Gentlemen of the Committee at Madras.

Honble Sir & Sirs

Inclosed with the monthly returns and accounts of the Garrison, I have the honor to transmit you the Returns of the Magazines for Provisions, and Grain.

The selling off the old grain, has been attended with difficulty; every body rejecting of it, while they cou'd get new. I cannot therefore dispose of it at a better price now than 14 Seer the Rice, and 28 for Paddy: Which thô, I beleive you will think better, than waiting longer at a certainty of more loss; unless there shou'd be a War. I hope to dispose of it all by the latter end of August. You will please to honor me with your Orders, what is to be done with the money arrising [*sic*] from the sale of it, and the Ballance already in my hands.

As to the new Grain, I have agreed so far with the Killedar, at 28 Seer ℔ Rupee, that all the Paddy is reckon'd with his consent at that price. Provided that on his Representation to the Nabob, he shou'd get your Consent Gentlemen to take less; I shou'd not here insist on my bargain. That I easily promised, as all our bargains here must wait the Sanction of your Orders, and Approbation to make them such. Give me leave tho' in case that the Nabob shou'd desire an abatement, to inform you, that even at 28 Seer a Rupee, if the peace continues the Company will lose by the Magazine, If they take it so far in their own hands; as to Sell out the old Grain, and reimplace it with new. But if I might dare to propose, the Nabob shou'd do that, at his own loss, and Expence; And then it signifies little what price the Grain is at, Provided you think the Quantity now in Store Sufficient; Your Officer's business will only be then, to see it kept up, and changed at the proper Seasons. The Quantity now is Sufficient for a Garrison of three thousand men, for Seventeen months, at a measure of Rice each man a day.

What remains due of the Quota agreed 1,25,000 Rupees. The Killedar has not Sambo Paddy to give me, but will make the Deficiencies good with money, or other Grain.

The Danes sometime ago asked from the King of Tanjour an Enlargement of their bounds; as some of their Fort was wash'd down with the Sea; which the King refused. They have since march'd out with 200 Europeans, five pieces of Cannon, and some Peons, and attacked two Pagodas belonging to the Tanjour about three miles from Tranquebar, the one called Tyllvaree, the other Anandamangulum. The last they have taken the other Monagee informed me by letter yesterday, they had attacked, but with no Success, for a Detachment of Horse, & some Seapoys having arriv'd there, from Tanjour, had attacked the Danes, Killed them about forty men, and wounded an hundred more, The rest having escaped to the other Pagoda, which they were Fortifying. Upon the King's refusing any more Ground to the Danes, the pretext they made use of for attacking those two Places, was on Account of some trifle of money due to them from two Pollygars thereabouts. The Vakeel writes me the King has informed the Governor of this, to Shew they have not been the Agressors, and hope for our Friendship in the Affair.

I daily expect a Remittance from the Nellour for the two Polligars money. Katabominaig, & Ellamrampanah, I do not find he hath setled yet with the other two, whose Securities Still remain here.

My last letter was dated the 3^d of June N°. 29. Since when I have been honored with yours of the 11th. N°. 33. I return my thanks for the Indulgence, on my representation towards the Colormen, and Shall observe your Directions concerning them. The Nabob has not pleased yet to Send the money, or an order for to pay the expences of the last estimates given in.

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[14TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JULY 1756.*——

As my Garrison is decreased I have only made up Tents for half the number you were pleased to Order, which I Shall take care by frequent Airing, not to Suffer them to damage or Spoil.

I remain with great Respect
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedient and
Faithful Servant

Trichenopoly
3d. July 1756.

JOHN CAILLAUD.

TO THE HONBLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQR. PRESIDENT AND GOVERNOR &C GENTLEMEN OF THE COMMITTEE OF CORRESPONDENCE.

Honble Sir & Sirs

I have the honor to acquaint you of my Arrival here. I found Captain Lee so dangerously ill that it was improper for me to visit him, I therefore communicated the President's Orders to Captain Lieutenant Godwin, who has delivered me over the charge of the Company's Troops. I find every thing in proper order, there have been many Men sick, but the Doctor informs me that the most of them are on the recovery.

I am Sensible, Gentlemen, of the honor you do me in the Nomination of my Command and beg leave to assure you that my Endeavors shall not be wanting to merit your Countenance and make myself worthy of the Confidence and trust you repose in me.

I have the honor to be with the greatest Respect
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedient &
most humble Servant

Chunda's Choultry
11th July 1756.

CHARLES CAMPBELL.

Letter from the Commissaries dated the 10th Instant, as entered in the Book of their Proceedings N. 35 Read, and also the Representation and Petition of the Inhabitants of one hundred and three Contested Villages setting forth the vast Loss they have suffered by means of the French, who forbid and prevented their Securing the Grain that has been cut, so that it is totally rotted & Spoilt, and who now will not Suffer the Ground to be tilled.

The Committee have transmitted so many Representations of the Nature of the before mention'd to Mr. Leyrit without Effect, that they now despair of providing for the Relief of the Inhabitants of those Districts by any other Method but maintaining a Superior Force there, which in the present Situation of Affairs we cannot prudently do; We can therefore only recommend to the Commissaries to Secure our Rights and the Property of the Inhabitants in the best manner they are able.

GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
AR. WYNCH.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.
ROBT PALK.

Sent the following Letters to the Select Committee at Bombay, and to Captain Charles Campbell pursuant to the Resolutions of the foregoing Committee.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JULY 1756.*—— [14TH.]

To THE HONBLE RICHARD BOURCHIER ESQR.
PRESIDENT AND GOVERNOR, & THE GENTLEMEN OF THE
SELECT COMMITTEE AT BOMBAY.

Honble Sir & Sirs

We have receiv'd last night Letters from the Governor and Council of Bengal of the 4th & 7th of last Month advising us of the great loss the Company have already Sustain'd by the Surrender of Cazimbazar to the new Nabob, who marching with a numerous Army between that place and Calcutta, Surrounded the abovemention'd Factory, and oblig'd Mr. Watts and his Council on frivolous Pretences to pay him a Visit, and to give up the Fort: & the Army is now marching on towards Calcutta.

This has lain the Gentlemen of Bengal under a necessity of demanding Troops from us, which notwithstanding our own Situation, the necessity of preserving so valuable a Settlement, has oblig'd us to Comply with, & We doubt not but this will be a further inducement to you, to reinforce us as Soon, & as much as possible.

We are Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedient
humble Servants
GEORGE PIGOT &CA COMMITTEE.

Fort St. George
14th July 1756.

To CAPTAIN CHARLES CAMPBELL.

Sir

You are already ordered to send in the 18 Pounders, Sick &ca. When the Nabob acquaints you that he has Settled with Murtaz ally Cawn, you are immediately to march with the Nabob, and the Troops under your Command to this Place.

We are Sir
Your most Obedt. Servants
G. PIGOT &CA. COMMITTEE.

Fort St. George
14th July 1756.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

GEORGE PIGOT ESQR. GOVERNOR PRESIDENT
STRINGER LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY
ROBERT ORME—ALEXANDER WYNCH
WILLIAM PERCEVAL—ROBERT PALK.

MONDAY THE 19TH.

Letters from Admiral Watson, and Robert Clive Esqr. Read, dated the 14th Instant in Answer to what we wrote them the 12th.

Gentlemen

I have receiv'd your favour of the 12th Instant, which I have communicated to the Deputy Governor, and Colonel Bagshaw, and agreable to your request shall supply this Garrison with the Ammunition and Provisions you desire, and as soon as the Troops and Stores are embarked, I Shall make the best of my way to Madras.

I am Gentlemen
Your most Obedient
humble Servant

CHARLES WATSON.

Kent
Fort St. David's
Road 14th July 1756.

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[19TH] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JULY 1756.*——

To the Hoñble George Pigot Esqr.
and the Gentlemen of the Select Committee.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

I have your favor inclosing one for Admiral Watson, which was dispatch'd to him the moment I receiv'd it.

Upon the Receipt of your letter I immediately called for a Return of this Garrison, which is now before me, and I find the Europeans fit for duty only 192 Rank and File, to which if you add the Sick being 37, the Total of Europeans Rank and File will be 231 Sick and well, The Topasses those which are on board the Squadron amount to 112, the whole military Force of Devecotah is but 92, Officers included, of which not more than 40 are Europeans, and if I take one half, the Garrison will be in a most defenceless Condition, and the Military will not even then amount to the number you mention. I inclose a Return of Fort St. David Garrison & one I got from Captain Callender of Devecotah for your Inspection.

The Artillery men will amount to near the number Specified in your letter, including the 25, which were ordered Captain Hislops Detachment, and who have not had Sufficient Practice to be depended on.

I Shall always pay great Defference to Colo. Adlercron & Colonel Lawrence's Opinion, and Agree with them that 400 men Rank and File, with 60 men of the Train of Artillery & 10 Companies of Seapoys, will be a Sufficient Force for the Defence of this Place, but I beg leave to ask, whether they include in the number 112 Topasses & 37 Europeans Sick & unfit for duty, I flatter myself they will think with me, as many good Sepoys woud render the Company more Service.

It was formerly a Custom at the Presidency to Supply their Subordinate Settlements with the most indifferent of every thing, this Charge cannot be laid to the President and Committee of Fort St. George who have always bestow'd an equal Regard and Attention on all our Honorable Masters Settlements in General, and I am persuaded they will think this Garrison shou'd be reinforced when they come to find its Strength, with the Addition of what can be Spar'd from Devecotah falls Short of what they propos'd for its defence.

I must therefore offer to your Consideration, whether it wou'd not be a Step consistent with the Safety of this Place, to desire one of the Company's belonging to the King's Regiment might be left here, and 10 or 12 of the King's Artillery men, in Such case I will be Answerable for the Defence of Fort St. David, It can be attended with no Inconveniency to our Civil Affairs, as I have the honor of his Majesty's Commission.

You may be assured of my Assiduity and Diligence, in getting the Troops, Military, Stores, &ca. embarked with the utmost Expedition, tho' I believe the Squadron cannot Sail in less than 4 or 5 days as Captain Hislop informs me he cannot have every thing ready belonging to his Branch before that time.

Mr. Watson will supply me with the Stores you mention, and you may be assured I will purchase nothing but what is absolutely necessary, most of the Small Articles may be Secur'd when the Danger is much nearer than at present.

Your Instructions about the Seapoys without Arms & the Payment of the Lascars Shall be obey'd.

I am with Respect

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obedient Servant

Robert Clive.

Fort St. David

14th July 1756.

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——*FORT S^T. GEORGE, JULY 1756.*—— [19th]

Our Force is lessen'd so considerably by the Draft made for Bengal that it wou'd not be prudent to leave any part of the Regiment at Fort S^t. David, the Garrison of which Place is now much Stronger in proportion to the Fortifications they have to defend, than this, which besides will probably be the first attack'd by the French Shou'd [they] have a Design against our Settlements.

It wou'd be doing Injustice to M^r. Watson were we not on this Occasion to take notice of the Readiness he has at all times shewn to assist in any measures that have been judg'd for the Company's Benefit.

The following Letter from the Governor & Council of Tranquebar Read.

To the Hoñble George Pigot Esq^R.
Governor, and the Gentlemen of the Council
of Fort St. George at Madras.

Gentlemen

'Tis well already by a Letter from us briefly demonstrated you, how we here upon the Company territory were overun'd, by the King's of Tanjour's people, in a most barbarous manner, with defaming, burning, robbing and plundering; but the means and in which way we most unjustly are attack'd by the said King of Tanjour, we have not yet explained you, & consists in the followin: A person by name Perumal Naicker, who is the only Author and proper cause of the thing happen'd, has already for one year ago chichan'd us in the most extreme manner with to rob and plunder from the Inhabitants upon the Company territory, as well as in a long time impeded and cut off the provisions that used to be carried hither into the Town; yea he did not cease to do so, til we must send out from here a Command to the utmost places of the Company limits, then seeing himself necessitated to make his retreat with his people, all thing grow Still and Silent: And this is that same Perumal Naicker who for 13 Years since has been here upon the territory and accomplish'd even such violent deeds. After that time by mediation, and upon demand of the King of Tanjour, we receiv'd him to our Nor-Vigiador, being that Function then vacant by the death of the former Vigiador, in the which Service this restless man did Stand no longer, and about half a Year, when he leaved his Office resorting himself to the King of Tanjour's territory, and mean while he dwelled there, which may be about 6 months, he continually by his people let rob and plunder upon the Company territory, some houses at all pillage, and afterwards Set on fire, and finally Snatch away in a night 6 of the Company's own Buffles or Cow-Beasts, & 48th pieces from particular people. Besides of this we did perceive that he along with the Subidar gathered together a great Force of Troops at Trequelour, knowing none what he therewith designed to enterprize. We in the beginning looked upon it with patience, but as it did go the far, all toleration was out, and we resolved us, ourself to take Satisfaction from Perumal Naicker, for that damage he had caused us, by that we send a Command into Anandamangalum, a Village belonging into him, and which else he has Set out in Pawn here by an Inhabitant of this Place, according to his own Ollis-Obligation, given out for 13 Years ago (of the which hereby follows a Copy) and now amounts together with the rents there of above 6000 Pardaos; whereby we were intended to hold there Post, till this matter by means of the Court of Tanjour cou'd be decided and made up: but our Command were hostily attacked by him, so they must retire 'em Self in a Pagode there of the said Anandamangulum, because of the multitude that surrounded them. At the same [*sic*] we much against our will, must hear that a great deal of horsemen and foot People, did invade into our Territory, utterly wasting it, with plundering and robbery and Setting on fire everywhere all the Company's Villages, likewise did they fall upon a Command of 24 Men Kingly Souldiers in the Village Tilleially, gone thither to bring back a quantity of Nelle belonging to the Company and massacred them utterly, thus the damage caused to our Company by Perumal Naiker and the Tanjour Troops, amounts to above one Lack Pagodas, not to Say, that the Grounds of the Company

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[19m.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JULY 1756.*——

henceforth must ly untilled for want of Seed-Nelle robbed away by the said Tanjour people. For this reason we ourself have must devise means to get Satisfaction for this irrecoperable loss and damage caused into us, wherefore we have craved help and releiving from the French Nation, which also has been willing to it, yea to put it in execution we have gotten already a deal of people, which daily is to Sustain besides a great many Peons we ourself have been necessitated to take in our own Wages. Nevertheless for all this, as Soon as it pleases you Gentlemen to Shew us the favor to make up this Difference to an Amicable Composition with the Court of Tanjour, that the King maketh over to our Company Some Districts, or in other convenable manner gives Satisfaction to the Company; and also removes from us this restless and troublesome Perumal Naicker, then presently Shall cease on our Side all differences and totally be laid aside, and therefore Shall we not undertake any think of hostility, till we receive Gentlemen your kind answer hereupon; Hence may you Gentlemen without doubt Say that not we but the King of Tanjour and Perumal Naiker only are the Causes of the Trouble of the Country.

Here next we cannot forbear to tell you also Gentlemen that we have sure information of, that Perumal Naicker has knavishly belyed and Slandered us by the Court of Tanjour, accusing us to have plundered and ruined Majaburam and Trequelour; which however is a manifest Lie, further, we are advertis'd that yesterday is gone again an Ollis from him to the Court of Tanjour about this matter, because that irksome man he trusts on't, that in all thing he finds approbation with Monosiapa, who is the real Source of all importunacy brought upon us from the King of Tanjour.

We make ourself, Gentlemen this Sure persvasion, that not only in Consideration of that Friendship and alliance which is between both our Nations, but also in regard of that close Consanguinity of both our Courts in Europe, You shall please to Show us the Kindness and procure for us Such favourable Conditions with the Court of Tanjour, as will Content our King in all Manner.

We remain with much Respect and Consideration
Gentlemen
Your most Obedient
humble Servants

H. G. Krog.

C. F. Hoyer. I. H. Gille. F. Volguards.

Fort Dansborg
11th Jule 1756.

Letter also from the King of Tanjour on the Subject of this dispute with the Danes Read, as entered in the Country Correspondence No. 182.

By the account given of this Dispute in the King of Tanjour's Letter, as well as by the Confession of the Danish Gentlemen in their Letter, it appears that in order to obtain Satisfaction from the Polligar Perumal Naigue they marched a Body of Troops upon the Territories of the King of Tanjour and took possession of the Village of Ananmangalum [*sic*] belonging unto him. The King of Tanjour thereupon sent his Forces to recover his Country out of the hands of the Danes, and prevent their further Incursions. This being the State of the Case, the Committee altho' they are most sincerely inclin'd to use all their Endeavors to bring about an Accommodation and to favor a Nation so intimately allied to ours as the Danes, yet they cannot but be of opinion that the Danes have on this Occasion taken a Wrong Method to obtain Satisfaction for the Injuries they complain of for we cannot regard the King of Tanjour as answerable for the actions or the Debts of the Polligar Perumal Naigue and the only Method of Accommodation which can now justly be propos'd is, that the King of Tanjour do cause a full Satisfaction to be made to the Danes by the Polligar Perumal Naigue and all his Subjects who have injur'd them, and the Danes do on their part quit the Territories of the King of Tanjour and retire into their old Bounds.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JULY 1756.*—— [19TH.]

Resolved to write an Answer conformable to the above Opinion to the Letter receiv'd from the Governor & Council of Tranquebar, & Enclose them a Copy of the King of Tanjour's Letter.

Receiv'd another Letter from Admiral Watson as follows.

Gentlemen

From the Apprehensions you are under of a Superior Force arriving every minute, it is undoubtedly necessary you shou'd endeavor to collect together all the Forces you can for your better defence, and as the King's Regiment by these Recruits from England are a Considerable Body of Men, it is my Opinion they shou'd be kept entire if there is a possibility of doing it, without distressing the Squadron too far. The only method I can propose for this, is your putting in Execution the Agreement made by the Company in their Charter Party with the Owners of the Ships employed in their Service, to land as far as thirty men from each Ship for the defence of their Garrisons, or on any other emergent Occasion; This being I am inform'd the Provision made by the Company in cases of necessity, I think the present Situation of your Affairs call upon such a demand by which means there wou'd be the best disposition made, that possibly can be, both ashore and on board the Squadron, as you wou'd then be able to send me the Seamen you get from your own Ships, and in their Room receive the King's Troops.

I take leave now, to offer this to your Consideration, that you may determine by the time of my Arrival at Fort St. George, where you may expect me with as much dispatch, as I can possibly make.

I am Gentlemen
Your most Obedient
humble Servant
CHARLES WATSON.

Kent
Fort St. David's Road
15th July 1756.

The Charter party Agreement made between the Company and the Owners of their Ships only empowers their Governor & Council to land thirty men from the Crew of any Ship or Ships that may be in the Port for the Defence of their Settlements if they are in danger from the Attack of an Enemy; but we understand that these Men must be returned on board before the Ship can be dispatch'd. The Ships now in the Road are bound immediately to China and cannot be detain'd, therefore it is impossible to take out any of their men. The President is desir'd to explain this Matter to Mr. Watson on his Arrival here.

By letter from Captain Campbell and Captain Pye we are advised to our great Concern of the Death of Captain Lee at Arcot the 15th Instant.

Receiv'd also the following Letters from Captain Charles Campbell.

To THE HONBLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQR.
PRESIDENT & THE GENTLEMEN OF THE
COMMITTEE OF CORRESPONDENCE.

Honble Sir & Sirs

Yesterday evening I had the honor of receiving your letter of the 12th Instant, & in obedience to your Orders shall send forward with all Expedition the two 18 Pounders, heavy Stores and such of the Sick as can't bear the fatigue of travelling.

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[19TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JULY 1756.*——

Narrian the Company's Linguister arrived here three days Since and brought three principal Inhabitants of Bommerauzes Country, who were sent by him as Securities for the payment of forty thousand Rupees, or 13333¾ Polliput Pagodas, which by his Agreement with them, is to be made on Saturday the 17th Instant I have examin'd these People, and altho' they promise to comply with their Agreement. Yet I beleive they want to gain further time, I Shall therefore if they are not punctual to their day, March them with the Army, unless I have your Order to the Contrary. Bommerauze has promis'd to pay the remaining thirty thousand Rupees in three months, but has not offered any Securities.

The Company of Seapoys that were Sent with the Linguister Narrain into Bommerauzes Country Still remain there, but as I look upon them as a part of my Command, I Shall, when I have your Orders to march, recall them from thence to Join the Army unless I have your directions to the Contrary.

I Shall endeavor to enlist as many good Seapoys as possible and Send them down to Madras.

The Doctors think that Captain Lee cannot live many hours.

I have the honor to be with the greatest Respect
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedient &
most faithful hble Servant
CHARLES CAMPBELL.

Chunda's Choultry
15th July 1756.

To THE HONBLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQR.
PRESIDENT &CA. GENTLEMEN OF THE COMMITTEE
OF CORRESPONDENCE.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

This Morning I dispatched to Madras the two 18 Pounders, Mortar and heavy Stores under Escort of two Companies of Seapoys (a Return of which I here inclose). There are 6 Sick Soldiers sent on the Carriages the Surgeon having assured me they were in a Condition to travel in that manner without prejudicing their health, and which will Save the expence of Doolies.

Captain Lieutenant Godwin is the Bearer of this, Lieutenant Erdman with Ensigns Vouga and Flaction are likewise on their Journey agreable to the President's orders.

I have the honor to be with the greatest respect
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedient and most faithful hble
Servant
CHARLES CAMPBELL.

Chunda's Choultry.
16th. July 1756.

Agreed to leave it to Captain Campbell to call in the Company of Seapoys from Bommerauze's Country, in case he judges they will be of no use in the Recovery of the Money due from that Polligar to the Company.

Captain Gaupp writes from Carangoly that he has made the necessary Dispositions so as to be able to march in immediately on the Receipt of our Orders, and Capt. Polier Commander of Changleput requests Leave to come to Madras for a few days to Settle some private Affairs—Agreed to grant him Leave but that he be cautioned to direct the Officer to whom he may entrust the care of the Garrison to be constantly on his Guard.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JULY 1756.*—— [19TH]

The President acquaints the Committee that Moolavey Hameaddeen the person expected with full Powers from Salabad Jung arriv'd two or three days ago and deliver'd him a Letter which is a Copy of what we receiv'd the 15th of last Month importing that he has discharged the French, and desires an Assistance from us, and that he is inclin'd to Shew great Favors to the English.

As soon as the Regiment arrives from Fort St. David it is Resolved to lay a State of our Troops upon this Coast before the Council of War with our Opinion of the Force it will be necessary to Send to Salabad Jung desiring they will form a Judgement and acquaint us whether after making such a Detachment they think there will be a Sufficient Force left for the defence of our Garrisons.

And it is Agreed in the mean time to dispatch back Ebramally Cawn, the Person who came first from Salabad Jung with a Letter acquainting him that our Troops with all proper Guns, & Stores, are almost in readiness to march.

Agreed also to write a Letter of Friendship to Shawnavaz Cawn, the Vizier of Salabad Jung, who is Said to have great Influence over his Councils.

GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
AR. WYNCH
WILLM: PERCEVAL.
ROBT. PALK.

Arriv'd in the Road, Rear Admiral Watson with his Majesty's Ships Kent, Cumberland, Tiger, Salisbury, Bridgwater, and King's Fisher Sloop with Colonel Adlercron's Regiment and the King's Train under the Command of Captain Hislop on board.

Sent the following Letter to the Governor & Council of Tranquebar pursuant to the Resolutions of last Committee. 22d.

To THE HOÑBLE HANS GEORGE KROG. ESQR.
GOVERNOR, & THE GENTLEMEN OF THE COUNCIL OF
FORT DANSBORG AT TRANQUEBAR.

Gentlemen

Having heard of the unfortunate Difference which had arisen between you & the King of Tanjour, We adress'd you the 4th. Instant out of the great regard and Friendship Subsisting between our two Nations, offering you our Mediation to accommodate the matters in dispute, and not doubting but you wou'd accept of our good Intentions, We immediately wrote to the King of Tanjour, but before that Letter (to which we have not yet receiv'd any Answer) came to his hands, he address'd us on the Subject a Copy of which Letter we now inclose for your Perusal. We have also been favor'd with two Letters from you, one of the 4th. the other of the 11th Instant by which we are informed that the original Cause of your taking up Arms was some Injuries offer'd to you by one Perumal Naiker a Polligar and Subject of the King of Tanjour, to obtain Justice from whom, you marched a Body of Troops upon the Territories of the said King and possess'd yourselves of the Village of Anandamangalum which belongs to him, This act of Hostility is on the other hand made the Subject of Complaint from the King of Tanjour; to give you our Opinion freely on this Subject so far as it is yet Stated to us, We must say it does not appear that you ever made any Application to the Court of Tanjour for Redress of the Injury done you by Perumal Naiker, had you made such Application without Effect, the Law of Nations (which as the Case now stands seems rather to Speak against you) wou'd then have justified your seeking Redress by the means

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[22D.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JULY 1756.*——

of Arms. This Candid declaration of our Sentiments we persuade ourselves you will look upon as one of the strongest Instances We can give you of our sincere Intention to bring this Affair to an equitable conclusion by taking it at once from its Source, and if you are heartily dispos'd to concur in such measures, We don't in the least doubt, but we shall be able to prevail with the King of Tanjour to cause ample Reparation to be made you, for all the damages you may have unjustly sustained by his Subjects, and on the other hand to shew a good Example of Justice, we persuade ourselves you will readily Agree to withdraw your Troops within your own Bounds and restore to him those Territories to which he has a just right, these are the measures which as equitable Mediators, We must recommend to you, and to him, to which we shall wait your Answer, in the mean time.

We are Gentlemen
Your Friends and very humble
Servants
GEORGE PIGOT &CA. COMMITTEE.

Fort St. George
22d. July 1756.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

FRYDAY THE 23D. GEORGE PIGOT ESQR. GOVERNOR PRESIDENT
STRINGER LAWRENCE HENRY POWNEY
ROBERT ORME ALEXANDER WYNCH
WILLIAM PERCEVAL ROBERT PALK.

The following Letter from Robert Clive Esqr. Read.

TO THE HONBLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQR.
& THE GENTLEMEN OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE.

Honble Sir & Sirs

All the Provisions, Stores, &ca. are landed from the Squadron, as will appear from the inclos'd Account, Sign'd by the Storekeeper.

Three of our Deserters named Thomas White, James Whitehead, Peter Land were return'd two days ago by Monsr. Leyrit and one Backman was return'd by us.

Ten men from this Garrison are missing, and there is a moral Certainty that they are concealed on board the Squadron, 3 were detected last Night in Sailors Habits, endeavouring to get on board, I have wrote to Mr. Watson in the Strongest Terms about them, and I must further represent that if there is not some method thought of to convince the inferior Officers on Board the Squadron, that they will incur the Admiral's Displeasure by harbouring our Men, there will be no End to Desertions of this Kind and the Company will receive infinite Detriment from those that come on purpose to protect and Serve them.

I am sorry to inform you that through the Obstinacy of the Boatfellows in coming ashore in the night time, one of the Boats loaded with Powder has been Stove, 29 Barrels are much damaged, and 2 entirely lost, I have sent to Secure the Boatfellows who absconded upon the Accident happening.

Being greatly want of good Drill men for exercising the Military I have applied to Colonel Bagshaw, who has Supplied me with two for that purpose, and I Shall order both Officers and Soldiers out every Morning till they are thoroughly acquainted with their Duty.

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——*FORT S^T. GEORGE, JULY 1756.*—— [23rd.]

All the Articles the Governor has wrote for, as far as this Garrison can Supply them, are embark'd except 15 of the 9 Pounders and I am in some doubt whether they can be got off in time, as the Admiral is determin'd to Sail by 12 o'Clock this Evening.

Inclos'd you will receive a little Sketch of what Articles are sent on Board.

I am with Respect
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedient
humble Servant
ROBERT CLIVE.

Fort S^t. David
19th. July 1756.

P. S. I have sent on board the Kent under Charge of the King's Guard five Swiss deserters, & I suppose your former Orders about sending the men belonging to Gaupp's & Polier's Companies, are overuled by your late Instructions, ordering me to compleat this Garrison to 400 men Rank & File.

The President is desir'd to request of Admiral Watson to order search to be made for the Deserters mention'd in M^r. Clives Letter and also to give directions on board the several Ships of his Squadron not to receive on board any more Men from the Garrisons without regular Discharges.

Receiv'd the following Letter from Captain Charles Campbell.

To the Honble George Pigot Esqr. Govrnor &
the Gentlemen of the Committee of Correspondence.

Honble Sir & Sirs

Last Night I had the honor of receiving your Letter of the 14th Instant and immediately waited on the Nabob, who has inform'd me, that he every day expects to receive from Murtazally Cawn one Lack of Rupees upon Payment of which all affairs with the Phousdar of Veloor will be accommodated, he has requested me to keep as Secret as possible your Intention of removing the Troops from this place, for shoud such a Report be spread, it might be the means of preventing Murtaz ally Cawn from fulfilling his Agreement. The Nabob has not Signified to me that he knows any thing of going with the Army to Madras, although I have hinted it to him. Under Charge of a Subidar and European Serjeant I have this day sent down three hundred men who have offer'd themselves for Seapoys in the Company's Service, I have ordered the Subedar to pay two small Fanams ℔^r day to each of them till their arrival at Madras. I hope they will be approved of, and I shall send another Detachment in a few days, I Shall from day to day acquaint you of the Nabob's Sentiments and the instant he informs me of having finished affairs with Murtaz ally Cawn I shall put your Orders in Execution. Be pleased to give orders that the Lascars and Carriage Bullocks which went with the 18 Pounders and heavy Stores, are returned. I have the honor to be with the greatest Respect

Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedient & most
faithful hble Servant
CHARLES CAMPBELL.

Chundas Choultry's
17th July 1756.

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[22nd.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JULY 1756.*——

To the Hoñble George Pigot Esq^R.
President & Governor &^CA Gentlemen of the
Committee of Correspondence.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

The Nabob has acquainted me that Murtaz ally Cawn's Vakeel went last night to Veloor, and he is expected back tomorrow morning, with the Phousdar's final Answer, upon his Arrival he promised to inform me if Matters were Accommodated to his Expectations.

The time being elapsed, when the Security's from Bommerauzes Country were to pay the forty thousand Rupees, upon demanding a Compliance with their Agreement, they replied "That they were disappointed in those Merchants whom they had depended on", and requested a further delay of four Months. As I found that very little Credit coud be given to their promises, I immediately ordered them to be Prisoners, with hopes that such treatment wou'd have a good Effect. They advised their friends of their Situation, and this Evening they show'd me a Letter in Answer, which gives them Assurances of the Money being raised as soon as possible, but their Behavior hitherto, will not Suffer me to have any great dependance on them. I have the honor to be with the greatest Respect

Hoñble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedient
humble Servant
Charles Campbell.

Chunda's Choultry's
18th July 1756.

To the Hoñble George Pigot Esq^R.
President & Governor &^CA. Gentlemen of the
Committee of Correspondence.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

My Letter of the 18th Instant gave you advice of Murtaz ally Cawn's Vakeel being gone to Veloor, since which I have been in hourly Expectation, of receiving some Accounts from the Nabob, that wou'd enable me to put your orders into execution, but I Still find that his Answer differs nothing from what I had the honor of advising you in my last. I must still repeat that the Nabob has not Signified any intention of accompanying the Army, nor can I learn from the Strictest enquiry, that he is making any preparations for the Removal of himself or Family.

To morrow I purpose Sending another Detachment of about three hundred new enlisted Seapoys. I flattering myself that those already Sent, are approved of. I Shou'd be glad to have your orders what number may be necessary. I am well inform'd that the French have for some time past been very industrious in procuring Seapoys, and Still continue to enlist those who offer their Service.

Yesterday I Sent a Sick Serjeant in a Doolie to Fort St. George. I have the honor to be with the greatest Respect

Hoñble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedient
humble Servant
Charles Campbell.

Chunda's Choultry's
20th July 1756.
9 o'Clock P.M

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JULY 1756.*—— [23RD.]

The King's Regiment being landed, except the two hundred & fifty Men quartered on board the Squadron, the Presence of the Army from Arcot is not so immediately necessary, therefore as it is inconvenient to the Nabob to remove with his Family it is Agreed to write Captain Campbell to remain there with the Troops untill further Orders, keeping them however in Readiness to march at Moment's Warning.

Agreed that Captain Campbell do enlist alltogether one thousand Seapoys if he can meet with good men, but that he be directed to be very careful in his Choice, taking only the very best that offer.

GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
A^R. WYNCH.
WILLM PERCEVAL.
ROBT PALK.

Sent the following Letter to Captain Charles Campbell, pursuant to the Resolutions of the foregoing Committee.

To CAPTAIN CHARLES CAMPBELL.

Sir

We have receiv'd your several Letters dated 11th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th & 20th Instant. The heavy Cannon & Stores are also arriv'd and the three hundred new Seapoys. If you can compleat the Number to one thousand it will be Sufficient, you may therefore be very choice of your men, enlisting only the very best that offer. We approve of the Measures you have taken to oblige the Securities Sent by Bommerauze to pay the money they are bound for; If you think the Company of Seapoys now in his Country can be of any Effect towards geting the Remainder of the Money or Security for it you may let them Stay, otherwise you may order them to Join the Army.

The Presence of the Troops at Madras, is not now so immediately necessary, therefore as it is inconvenient to the Nabob to remove his Family, we woud have you stay with the Army at Arcot untill further Orders. You must however keep every thing in readiness to march at a Short Warning. Advise us always of the State of the Troops, whether they are well or Sickly, as this is a Circumstance of great Weight regarding their Stay or Removal.

We are Sir

Your most Obedit Servants

GEORGE PIGOT &CA COMMITTEE.

Fort St. George
24th July 1756.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

GEORGE PIGOT ESQR.	GOVERNOR PRESIDENT	MONDAY THE 26TH JULY.
STRINGER LAWRENCE	HENRY POWNEY	
ROBERT ORME	ALEXANDER WYNCH	
WILLIAM PERCEVAL	ROBERT PALK.	

The President introduces Rear Admiral Watson, and Rear Admiral Pocock. Mr. Watson is presented to a Seat at the President's Right Hand and Mr. Pocock at his left.

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[26TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JULY 1756.*——

The President produces and reads three Letters receiv'd last night from Salabad Jung's Camp as enter'd No. 191, 192 & 193 in the Country Correspondence. No. 191 is from Salabat Jung, 192, from Mahomed Moheen Cawn, and 193 from Japhir Alley Cawn, being answers to the Letters wrote them the 16th June, entered in the Private Committee Book. Salabad Jung expresses great Satisfaction at the Promise made him of our immediate Assistance, the which he desires may be sent away with all possible Speed, and with directions to march first to Wangole, from thence to Woneyconda, from Woneyconda to Chintapelly, then to cross the Kisna, and proceed to Chelcore, under Golconda, which is a direct Road, and a Road to which the French can have no Entrance. Accompanying these Letters Salabad Jung has sent the orders we desir'd to the Several Zemeadars & Pollygars on the Road to supply the Troops with Provisions, &c[a] during their March.

Admiral Watson then addressing himself to the Committee, represented that in Consequence of their Request in their Letter dated the 4th Instant he came hither with the Ships under his Command bringing Colonel Adlercron's Regiment and the Train of Artillery on board, which being landed here, he shall receive his Supplies of Europe Stores, and then be in readiness to act in such manner, as shall be Judg'd most conducive to the Good of the Service; that he is of Opinion the Squadron's returning to their Station to Windward of Pondicherry might prove of Singular Service in case an inferior French Squadron shoud appear, or in case their Squadron shoud by any accident be Separated and come upon the Coast in Divisions; nevertheless if the late news from Bengal, or the pressing Demand of Salabat Jung for Assistance, or any other Reasons, shou'd cause the Committee to be of another Opinion, he will be willing to assist in whatever Measures shall be Judg'd for the General Good, and he concludes therefore with desiring that the Committee will acquaint him by Letter of their Resolutions.

Admiral Watson & Admiral Pocock then retir'd.

The Committee entirely Agree in Opinion with Mr. Watson that his Majesty's Squadron if Stationd to the Southward might be of the most important Benefit to the Company's Affairs if the French shou'd appear with such a number of Ships as Mr Watson wou'd be able to Stop; But as they are perfectly acquainted with the Strength of our Squadron it is not to be imagin'd they will expose themselves to such a Check; It is more probable from the Intelligence contain'd in the Secret Committee's Letter dated 22d December last, that they will appear with a Squadron far Superior to Ours, or if they cannot collect together such a Force, then that they will stop at Karical and there land all their Men and Stores, as it will be out of the Power of our small Squadron to watch both that Port and Pondicherry; and to cruize at Sea against the Force of the Current at this Season wou'd be too great a Strain upon the Ships which are besides already Sickly. And it is further Considered that all the Company's Settlements as well as any Reinforcements of Men of War, that may be coming from England, would be expos'd to extreme danger of [*sic*] our Squadron shoud be overpower'd, or even shou'd Mr. Watson be oblig'd to quit the Coast suddenly without landing the Detachment which is on board, belonging to Colonel Adlercron's Regiment, the Loss of so many men wou'd be most Sensibly felt after the Draft sent to Bengal, and the Promise made to Salabat Jung.

The Advantages and Inconveniences on each side being duly weigh'd it is thought best for the Squadron to remain here untill the Receipt of further advices and Instructions from England and Agreed to Address a Letter to Mr. Watson accordingly.

Resolved also to recommend to Admiral Watson to entertain Lascars for the Service of his Majesty's Ships (as the former Commanders of the Squadrons in India have constantly practised) which will prevent the necessity of his making a further Draft of Men from the Regiment.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JULY 1756.*—— [26TH.]

Agreed to meet tomorrow morning for the Consideration of the measures necessary to be taken in consequence of the Letter receiv'd from Salabat Jung.

GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
AR. WYNCH.
WILLM PERCEVAL.
ROBT PALK.

AT A COMMITTEE TUESDAY THE 27TH.

Present

GEORGE PIGOT ESQR. GOVERNOR PRESIDENT

STRINGER LAWRENCE	HENRY POWNEY
ROBERT ORME	ALEXANDER WYNCH
WILLIAM PERCEVAL	ROBERT PALK.

Country Letters No. 191, 192, & 193, from Salabat Jung, Mahomed Moheen Cawn, and Japhir Ally Cawn, which were Read in last Committee, now read a Second time.

It having been Resolved in Private Committee of the 15th June for the many Reasons therein Recited to send an Assistance to Salabat Jung as soon as his expected Deputy shoud arrive, a Letter of Promise was wrote to Salabat Jung accordingly;

This Deputy (Moolavey Hameaddeen) is Since arriv'd and has set forth the great desire of Salabat Jung to be allied to the English, and the Advantages which will accrue to the English from this Alliance; and Salabat Jung in his Answer to our Letter of the 16th June (wrote in Consequence of the beforemention'd Private Committee) expresses the highest Approbation of our Intention to Join him, and an earnest Desire that the Force may be set out as soon as possible. The Committee therefore now bring under Consideration the Measures proper to be taken for the Assistance of Salabat Jung consistently with our own Security.

The President acquaints the Committee that the Hircaras who brought these Letters from Salabat Jung's Camp and have been only fifteen days on the Road give an account that Mr Bussy arriv'd without Molestation at Hyderabad with the French Troops, & having sent out a small Party from thence with all his Bullocks to fetch Provisions from a Neighbouring Place, a Party of Morrattas attack'd them & carried off the Bullocks. Mr Bussy thereupon sent a Vakeel to Ebram ally Cawn, Salabat Jung's Manager in the City of Hyderabad to demand a number of Bullocks, a Dispute arose between them, Mr Bussy's Vakeel stabb'd Ebram ally Cawn mortally, and was himself cut to pieces on the Spot. Mr. Bussy fearing this Disturbance might have some bad Consequences, immediately took Possession of a large House in the Town, where he has laid in a Store of Provisions by Plundering the Buzzars, and having mounted Cannon around, prepares to defend himself against Salabat Jung who was about sixty Miles off with his Army.

The President further acquaints the Committee that according to the Intelligence he has receiv'd, the French have within these few days embarked and sent away near five hundred men; that he is not certain whether their Destination may be to Golconda or Bengal; but considering the last accounts of Mr. Bussy it may be supposed they are intended to assemble at Metchlepatam, and from thence to make an Effort to Join Mr. Bussy at Hyderabad.

If they shou'd effect this Junction which however will be difficult as they will have a Fortnight's March exposed to be continually harrass'd and alarm'd by Salabat Jung's Horse, the French will have a Body of near one thousand Men at Hyderabad.

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[27TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JULY 1756.*——

The Committee are nevertheless of Opinion that four hundred men Rank & file including the Train of Artillery will be sufficient for the purpos'd Expedition for as there is no danger of being opposed on the Road, the Junction with Salabat Jung will be made without difficulty, and the Presence of such a Party will be enough to keep Salabat Jung firm in his Resolution to remove all Influence of the French from his Person, and to secure him from any attacks of their Army; Mr Bussy on the other hand being continually harrass'd and Surrounded by Horse, will find it difficult, if not impossible, to gather any Supplies of Provisions, and must in time either come to Terms or attempt a Dangerous Retreat.

But if Salabat Jung is left without European Assistance it is very probable that Mr Bussy will gain some Advantage over him and oblige him to make such Concessions to the French Nation as will render them Masters of the Trade of the Country.

The President lay's before the Committee a State of our Strength of this Coast, according to the last Returns amounting to one thousand, nine hundred, and forty two Men, non-Commission'd Officers and Soldiers, including Sick and well, Europeans, Topasses & Caffrees, belonging to the Company, as well Military as Train, but exclusive of Colonel Adlercron's Regiment and the King's Train.

The Committee are of Opinion that a Party of four hundred men Rank & file as beforemention'd may be detach'd, and a Sufficient Force remain for the Defence of the Company's Forts and Settlements in these Parts, the rather as the French by the large Draft lately made from Pondichery will be less capable of forming any Enterprize against us, and [we?] are besides in daily Expectation of Supplies of Men from Europe, Bombay and the West coast.

Colonel Adlercron having been desir'd to assist us with his Advice on this Occasion, now takes his Seat, and a General View having been first given him of the Cause of Salabat Jung's throwing off the Yoke of the French and applying to us for Assistance, as well as of the Force under M^r. Bussy and the Reinforcements lately sent from Pondichery, and the State of our Present Strength being also laid before him, his Opinion is desired upon the following Points.

Whether a Party of four Hundred Rank & file will be sufficient for the purpos'd Expedition. Whether after sending away such a Detachment sufficient will remain for the Defence of the Company's Forts & Settlements in these Parts. Whether more than four hundred, Rank & file, can be spar'd for the Expedition.

And what Officers and men are most proper to be Sent.

Colonel Adlercron then presents to the Committee a Return of the Strength of the Regiment being 400 men Rank & file besides the Detachment of two hundred & eighty on board his Majesty's Ships, assuring us of his Readiness either to go himself upon the purposed Command, or send any of his Officers that shall be judg'd proper; He mentions it as his Opinion that a Sufficient Force will remain for the Defence of the Company's Forts and Settlements, after detaching four hundred Rank & File, but as all Plans of this Nature must be debated by the Council of War, before they can be executed; he desires the Circumstances of the Affair in question, as they have been now related to him, may be address'd to him in a Letter, which he will lay before the Council of War and acquaint us with the Result.

Ordered that a letter be address'd to Colonel Adlercron accordingly and in the mean time it is Agreed to return Salabat Jung's Hircaras with answers to his, & Mahomed Moheen Cawn's Letters, assuring them that our Troops will march in Company with Moolavey Hameaddeen without delay. This will be a means to prevent his hearkening to any Terms of Accommodation that may be made to him by M^r. Bussy.

Agreed also to desire Salabat Jung to order two or three thousand Horse to meet our Troops at the River Kisna, and to advise the Nabobs of Curapa & Cunnoul of the Road which our Detachment is to take that they may Join us with their Armies in the Way, as they also have receiv'd Orders from Salabat Jung to attend him with their Forces.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JULY 1756.*—— [27TH.]

And Ordered that the Nabob be appriz'd of all the foregoing Resolutions, that he may prepare a few of his Horse to accompany our Troops to Salabat Jung.

GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
AR. WYNCH.
WILLM: PERCEVAL.
ROBT PALK.

Sent the following Letter to Colonel Adlercron pursuant to the Resolutions of the foregoing Committee.

To JOHN ADLERCRON ESQR.
COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF THE LAND FORCES IN INDIA.

Sir

You have been acquainted that a Body of French Troops has for some years been Join'd to Salabat Jung in the Decan, by which they have acquir'd an Influence over his Person and gain'd to themselves very Extensive Possessions from whence they have drawn Supplies of money and Secured to themselves a Weighty Interest in the Country. By this they have been enabled to carry on the War in this Country with infinite Advantages over us.

And we have undoubted proofs that the use they have been endeavoring to make of this their Advantageous Situation ever since the Truce was to acquire to themselves the Dominion of all the Provinces of the Decan. About three months ago they began to manifest these Intentions by making such exorbitant Demands of Possessions from Salabat Jung as might well Alarm him. One among others was that the Fort of Golconda shou'd be put into their hands.

Upon Salabat Jung's representing to Mr. Bussy who Commands the French Troops that his Demands were unreasonable, and that the Countries he had put into his Possession were more than Sufficient for the Pay of the Troops and his other Expences which was all he ought to require, Mr. Bussy grew more and more pressing and insolent 'till at last about the latter end of May, Salabat Jung thought it imprudent to confide in them any longer, he therefore acquainted Mr. Bussy that he had no further Service for the French Troops, and ordered them to return quietly to Pondichery.

The Armies were then lying at Savanore, a Fort on this Side the River Kisna, Mr Bussy according to Salabat Jungs Orders drew off the French Troops from his Army, and began his March, as he said for Metchlepatam, by the way of Hyderabad the Capital of Golconda.

Salabat Jung immediately wrote to the President on their moving, requesting an Assistance of Troops, to prevent the French from making any Conquests in his Country and to remove them from the Possession of those Provinces the Revenues of which he had assign'd to them for the Payment of their Troops while they were in his Service.

An Answer was wrote him the 16th June that we were very glad of the Opportunity of Assisting in his Affairs and that we certainly woud dispatch a Force to him immediately after the Arrival of the Person, whom he wrote he was Sending hither in quality of his Ambassador to discourse fully upon the Affair.

This Person is Since arriv'd and also an answer to our abovemention'd Letter in which answer Salabat Jung presses the immediate March of our Troops to Join him as Soon as possible.

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[27TH] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JULY 1756.*——

We judge the Reasons why Salabat Jung is more pressing for our Assistance are the Steps taken by Mr. Bussy since his Removal from Salabat Jung's Army. The Accounts brought by the last Hircaras from thence, confirm'd by some other Intelligence are as follows.

That his Troops having committed some Disorders in the Countries they were passing through, Salabat Jung detach'd a Party of Moratta Horse to keep near to them on the Road and prevent further Disturbances, Mr. Bussy however arriv'd safe at Hyderabad which as we have before said is the Capitol of Golconda. From thence having sent out his Draft and Carriage Bullocks to fetch some Grain which he had Seiz'd in a Neighbouring Village the Morattas attack'd the small Party, and took away all the Bullocks, Mr. Bussy thereupon sent a Vakeel to demand a number of Bullocks from Ebram ally Cawn, Manager for Salabat Jung, in the City of Hyderabad, Ebram ally Cawn, answered that he cou'd not Supply him without Salabat Jung's Order, a Dispute arose between the Vakeel and Ebram Ally Cawn, the Consequence of which was that the Vakeel kill'd Ebram ally Cawn with his Crese and was himself immediately cut to pieces by Ebram ally Cawn's People. Mr. Bussy upon the news of this Affair took Post with his Troops in a large House in the Town of Hyderabad, where he has mounted Guns and prepar'd to defend himself against Salabat Jung, who by the last advices, dated 10th July was at the Distance of 20 Coass (60 miles) from Hyderabad having detach'd a large Body of Troops before him to Join those already there.

It is to be remark'd that Hyderabad is an open City ; the Fortress which is called Golconda is in possession of Salabat Jung. It is Said that Mr. Bussy by plundering the Buzzars has secur'd a good stock of Provisions and his Force according to our best Intelligence consist of 400 Military and 3000 or 4000 Seapoys.

And we have learnt that within these last twenty days the French have embarked from Pondichery four or five hundred men which we Suppose are to be landed at Metchlepatam and to march from thence to succour Mr. Bussy. The March from Metchlepatam to Hyderabad may be reckon'd about 15 Days.

If the French shou'd get the better of Salabat Jung, they will no doubt oblige him to put them in Possession of such forts and Territories in the Decan as will best Suit their Views, such no doubt as will make them entire Masters of it; and then the Trade of this Coast will be so much at their Disposal that our Settlements on this Coast if we shou'd be able to hold them will become a Burthen to the Nation instead of an Advantage.

We cou'd not therefore but resolve to send a Detachment with all possible Expedition to Join Salabat Jung notwithstanding the Intelligence receiv'd from Europe of a considerable French Fleet having Sail'd for India.

We think that about four hundred Europeans including the Train of Artillery and one thousand Seapoys, if more cannot be Spar'd, may be sent with Safety on this Expedition, for although Mr. Bussy, if he shou'd be Join'd by all the Detachments lately sent from Pondichery, will have near a thousand men, yet as he has no Black Troops he will be Subject to be continually harrassed, while our Party will be Join'd to Salabat Jung's numerous Army (said to consist of fifty thousand Horse) who by the presence of our Troops will be encouraged to act with more Vigour shou'd there be Occasion.

Salabat Jung has himself pointed out the Road by which our Detachment shou'd march, and sent Orders to all the Polligars Amuldars, & other Officers residing in the adjacent Countries to furnish Sufficient Provisions on being paid for them ; and it is a Road to which he says the French can have no Entrance.

We lay before you a Compleat List of that Company's Troops at present on the Coast ; and we beg the favor Sir, of your Opinion whether after detaching the number abovemention'd Sufficient will remain for the Defence of the Companys Forts, & Settlements, whether you Judge a larger number cou'd be Spar'd for the Expedition, and what Officers & Troops are most proper to be Sent.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JULY 1756.*—— [28TH.]

It may not be improper to mention that as the French have made so large a Draft from Pondichery we are in the less Danger of any Enterprizes from thence; and further that we some time ago wrote very Strenuously to Bombay for a Reinforcement which we may hope to See next Month. We are besides in daily Expectation of near onehundred Men from Fort Malborough, and four more Ships from Europe which will bring each about Sixty Men.

We are Sir
Your most Obedient
humble Servants

GEORGE PIGOT—STRINGER LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY—ROBERT ORME—ALEXANDER WYNCH—WILLIAM PERCEVAL—ROBERT PALK.

Fort St. George.
28th. July 1756.

Sent the following Letter to Rear Admiral Watson pursuant to the Resolutions of the foregoing Committee, the 26th Instant. [29 D.]

To CHARLES WATSON ESQR.
REAR ADMIRAL OF THE RED & COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF HIS MAJESTY'S SQUADRON IN INDIA.

Sir

In consequence of our Deliberations with you in Committee the 26th we think it proper to represent to you, that although we Agree with you in Opinion that the Situation of his Majesty's Ships to the Southward might in some Circumstances prove very beneficial, particularly if it shou'd happen that a French Fleet not Superior to yours or part of a French Fleet seperated from the rest, Shou'd fall in with you.

Yet when we consider the Sickness of your Ships, their Inability to cruize at this Season, the great Probability from the Advices we receiv'd from the Company that the French Fleet if any shou'd come, will be far Superior to yours, the extreme Danger all the Company's Settlements wou'd be exposed to, if the Squadron shou'd be overpower'd, which wou'd besides render any Reinforcement that may be intended to Join you from England useless; as well as their own Safety precarious, and the hazard of your not being able to return hither to land the Detachment you have on board belonging to the Regiment, the want of which we shall feel the more, by the large Draft we have been oblig'd to make from our Garrison for Bengal. All these Considerations we say, being duly weigh'd, we are of Opinion it will be most advisable for the Squadron to remain here untill you receive further Advices and Instructions from Europe.

As the Draft of men you have already found it necessary to make from Colonel Adlercron's Regiment for the Service of the Squadron, it is a great loss to us, and any further Draft wou'd be of the utmost Detriment to our Affairs, we take the Liberty to recommend to you to entertain Lascars as the Commanders of his Majesty's Squadrons in India have heretofore done.

We have the honor to be
Sir Your most Obedient
& most humble Servants
GEORGE PIGOT &CA. COMMITTEE.

Fort St. George
29th July 1756.

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[30th.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JULY 1756.*——

Receiv'd the following Answer from Rear Admiral Watson.

Gentlemen,

I have receiv'd your letter of Yesterday's date, and have duly considered the Reasons you give for the Squadron's remaining here, together with the critical Situation of Affairs in these Parts. I therefore Agree with you in Opinion, and shall continue, till I receive further Advices and Instructions from Europe, or am oblig'd to leave this Coast upon the breaking up of the Monsoon.

I am Gentlemen
Your most Obedient and
most humble Servant
CHARLES WATSON.

Fort St. George
30th July 1756.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

GEORGE PIGOT ESQR. GOVERNOR PRESIDENT
STRINGER LAWRENCE — HENRY POWNEY
ROBERT ORME — ALEXANDER WYNCH
WILLIAM PERCEVAL — ROBERT PALK.

FRIDAY THE 30TH. Colonel Adlercron then acquaints the Committee the Proceedings of the Council of War held Yesterday upon the Letter we address'd him the 28th Instant concerning the intended Expedition to Golconda.

The said Proceedings are as follow.

At a Council of War held at Fort St. George the 29th day of July 1756.

Present
- Colonel John Adlercron Commr in Chief
- Lieut Colo Samuel Bagshaw
- Lieut Colo Stringer Lawrence
- Major Francis Forde
- Captain William Hislop Commander of the Detachment of the Royal Artillery

A Letter dated 28th July 1756 from the President & Gentlemen of the Secret Committee to Colonel Adlercron, was read to the Council.

The Council having taken the said Letter into Consideration, it was moved whether or no the number of men proposed by the Committee to be sent to the Assistance of Salabat Jung, was Sufficient for the Expedition intended.

The Majority are of Opinion it is insufficient, and that the Detachment ought to consist of at least four hundred Europeans Rank & file, exclusive of the Train of Artillery.

The following Questions from the Committee, were then Submitted to the Consideration of the Council.

1st Whether after detaching four hundred men, including the Train (as proposed by the Committee) a Sufficient number will remain for the Defence of the Company's Forts & Settlements?

The Majority of the Council are of Opinion, that a Sufficient number will remain for the Defence of Fort St. George against any attack that seems likely at present to be made against it.

2d Whether a larger number of Troops can be spared?

The Majority are of Opinion there may, as the only addition required is, that the number proposed may be exclusive of the Train.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JULY 1756.*—— [30TH]

3d. . . What Officers and Troops are most proper to be sent ?

The Majority are of Opinion that the Artillery shou'd be entirely composed of his Majesty's, but the rest of the Detachment to consist equally of the King's and Company's Troops.

JOHN ADLERCRON.
SAMUEL BAGSHAW.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
FRANCIS FORDE.
WILLIAM HISLOP.

To the 1st Question I am thus far dissentient, I think it is hazardous at this time to detach so large a Body of Troops from the Defence of the principal Settlement, but if as the Committee say the Company's affairs will be so greatly hurt by the Success of the French, & that it is necessary a Body of Troops shou'd be sent to Salabat Jung to prevent the Success. I am of Opinion the four hundred named by the Committee shou'd be sent to his Assistance. To the Second, I am of Opinion a greater number cannot be Spared at this time.

SAML. BAGSHAW.

To the 2d Question I am of Opinion no more can be spared, than the number the Committee has mention'd in their Letter.

STRINGER LAWRENCE.

a true Copy

JNO. CARNAC
Secretary.

Colonel Adlercron then acquaints the Committee that it is his Intention to go himself upon this Command with Major Forde and Captain Hislop, and desires the Party may be made up, according to the Opinion of the Council of War, to four hundred Rank and File, besides the Train, and also that he may have fifteen hundred Seapoys instead of one thousand.

The Committee offer'd four hundred men Rank and file including the Train, as the most that cou'd be spar'd; and they observe that both Colonel Bagshaw & Colonel Lawrence are of Opinion that the Expedition may be carried on with that Number; the Committee therefore now again represent to Colonel Adlercron that a larger Draft cannot prudently in our present doubtful Situation be made from our Force. Accordingly a List of the intended Detachment is drawn out as follows.

The Grenadier Company of Colo. Adlercron's Regiment . . .	70 Men rank & file
From the other Companies of the Regiment	100
The Grenadier Company of the Companies Troops	100
From the Company's Battalion	78
	348
The Kings Train (Officers included)	53
	401 Men

The above List being presented to Colonel Adlercron he told the Committee he wou'd consider of it, and acquaint them with his Determination whether he cou'd proceed with such a Command or not.

With regard to Seapoys it is Agreed that the whole number now at Arcot amounting to twelve or thirteen hundred do proceed on the Expedition.

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[30TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, JULY 1756.*——

Colonel Adlercron then enquir'd of the Committee whether he was to take the Command of all Salabat Jung's Army, to which he was answer'd that he expect to be consulted concerning all Military Operations, but that Salabat Jung woud no doubt reserve to himself the General Conduct of Affairs.

After which Colonel Adlercron retir'd and the Committee defer the further Consideration of the Intended Expedition untill the Receipt of his Answer concerning the Command.

GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
AR. WYNCH.
WILLM PERCEVAL.
ROBT PALK.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

MONDAY THE 2D.

GEORGE PIGOT ESQR. GOVERNOR PRESIDENT
STRINGER LAWRENCE — HENRY POWNEY
ROBERT ORME — ALEXANDER WYNCH
WILLIAM PERCEVAL — ROBERT PALK.

The President acquaints the Committee that Colonel Adlercron return'd to him, with the List of four hundred and one Men including the Train of Artillery, and told him he cou'd not proceed on the Expedition without the number recommended by the Majority of the Council of War Vizt. four hundred men Rank and File, besides the Train.

By this the Committee judge that the King's Troops cannot be employed on the Expedition without sending the Number propos'd by the Majority of the Council of War, and therefore it is to be consider'd whether it wou'd be prudent to undertake it with a less Number of the Company's Troops;

As the Road pointed out for our Detachment to march is such as the French can have no Entrance to; As our Troops will march all the way through the Territories of Friends and will be furnish'd without difficulty with Provisions by means of Salabat Jung's Orders to the different Chiefs. We are of Opinion that the Party we first propos'd, four hundred Rank and file, including Train, might with Safety be sent on this Expedition; and that such a Party, Join'd to Salabat Jung, wou'd be Sufficient to Secure him in our Interest, to stop all Progress of the French in the Decan, and even to oblige them to retire to their Settlements--Nevertheless as the undertaking the Expedition with a less Force than is recommended by the Majority of the Council of War, wou'd be making ourselves entirely answerable for any unforseen Accidents that might happen, it is Agreed, to send the Number by them recommended, Vizt. four hundred men Rank & File; besides the Train; and Ordered that the necessary Preparations be made for their March.

Three Letters from Captain Charles Campbell Read, as follows.

TO THE HOÑBLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQR. PRESIDENT &
GOVERNOR &C GENTLEMEN OF THE COMMITTEE OF CORRESPONDENCE.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

I have the honor to acquaint you that the Nabob has informed me of Murtaz ally Cawn's Vakeel being returned from Veloor, and having brought with him Bills for a Lack of Rupees which he expects to receive daily this Account is confirm'd to me by the Shroffs. There yet remains some Articles undetermin'd, betwixt the Nabob and Phousdar, which the former imagines will be Settled soon.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, AUGUST 1756.*—— [2D]

Yesterday Lieutenants Paschoud and Ford join'd the Army; I beg leave to remark that I have only one Captain, one Lieutenant, & four Ensigns, for the Battalion, and one of the Latter does the duty of Adjutant.

I have the honor to be with the greatest Respect
Hoñble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedient and most humble Servant

Chunda's Choultry's
23d July 1756.

CHARLES CAMPBELL.

To THE HOÑBLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQR.
PRESIDENT & GOVERNOR &CA GENTLEMEN OF THE
COMMITTEE OF CORRESPONDENCE.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

This morning I had the honor of receiving your letter dated 24th Instant. I have already enlisted and sent into Madras Seven hundred & fifty Seapoys. I shall not exceed the number you have order'd, and those only, who appear most fit for Service.

As I did not conceive that the Company of Seapoys which remained in Bommerauze's Country, wou'd facilitate or hasten the Payment of the money due from him—to reduce such an unnecessary Expence, I recalled them from thence.

I have the pleasure to acquaint you, that we have very few sick, in Proportion to the number of men—The Troops in General being very healthy.

I Shall punctually observe your Orders, and be allways prepar'd to march the Army on a very short Warning, and I Shall be equally careful to advise you frequently of the State of the Troops, or any Occurrences that may happen under my Command, that may be worthy your Notice.

I have the honor to be with the greatest Respect
Hoñble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedt. hble Servant

Chunda's Choultry's
27th July 1756.

CHARLES CAMPBELL.

To THE HOÑBLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQR.
PRESIDENT & GOVERNOR & THE GENTLEMEN
OF THE COMMITTEE OF CORRESPONDENCE.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

I have the honor to acquaint you that the Nabob has informed me of his having received one Lack of Rupees from Murtaz ally Cawn, also having Settled every thing with him.

Yesterday I sent to Madras one hundred and fifty new enlisted Seapoys under Command of an European Serjeant and gave him Orders to pay two fanams a day each of them till their Arrival there.

No material Alteration in the State of the Troops since my last.

I have the honor to be with the greatest Respect
Hoñble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedient humble Servant

Chunda's Choultry's
31st July 1756.

CHARLES CAMPBELL.

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[2D-] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, AUGUST 1756.*——

As Captain Campbell mentions that the Agreement with Murtaz ally Cawn Phousdar of Veloor is finish'd; it is Agreed to write to the Nabob for the Particulars, and also to put him in mind to remit half the money, he may receive, for the Company.

GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
A^R. WYNCH.
WILL^M PERCEVAL.
ROB^T. PALK.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

FRYDAY THE 6TH.

GEORGE PIGOT Esq^R. GOVERNOR PRESIDENT
STRINGER LAWRENCE — HENRY POWNEY
ROBERT ORME — ALEXANDER WYNCH
WILLIAM PERCEVAL — ROBERT PALK.

The President acquaints the Committee that upon the fresh Intelligence receiv'd from Calcutta of the dangerous Situation of that Settlement, the Governor and Council had resolved to send a further Reinforcement thither and to suspend the Prosecution of the design'd Expedition to Salabat Jung's Camp judging that the number of men requir'd for that Service cou'd not be spar'd consistently with the Safety of the Company's Affairs on this Coast, after Sending this Second Detachment to Bengal.

And the President further acquaints the Committee that in Consequence of the abovemention'd Resolution of the Council, he ordered Captain Smith with one Company of Mjlitary from Arcot that they might be prepar'd to embark.

Agreed to dispatch a Pattamar to Bombay to advise the Select Committee there of the necessity we are under of sending a Second Detachment to Bengal and requesting them in the most Strenuous manner not to fail to send us the Supplies of men & Stores we have so often wrote for.

Letter from Robert Clive Esqr. Read, advising that five of the ten men whom he imagin'd to be on board the Squadron were return'd to him the 29th Ultimo from Pondichery and inclosing the following Paper of Advice from Salabat Jungs Camp.

Advice from Salabat Jung's Camp Rece'd 3^d Aug^st 1756.

Monsr. Bussy & his men were beseig'd by the Morattas in Goshamahal, but we had Intelligence lately, that the 9th of last month he march'd from thence with all his Forces and went into the Pettah of Golconda; He was attack'd that day, a great many French men were kill'd; and several taken Prisoners, he still continues in that Pettah with the rest of his Forces, but they are now beseig'd, and they will be taken in a few days. Nabob Salabat Jung is arriv'd near Golconda, he has sent one Mahomed Bauker to take Possession of Moortezanagar and other Country's which were Jageers to Monsr Bussy, he is also Sending Amuldars to take the rest of the Country from the French; Ebraim Cawn Head of the French Seapoys was going to assist Monsr. Bussy with his Forces from Siccacul and Rajabendar, but Nabob Salabat Jung sent orders to Viziamram Rauze, and other Polligars to intercept them, they accordingly Weaken & detain them from Proceeding to the intended Place. Salabat Jung appointed Jaferally Cawn (Father-in-law to the late Subidar of Golconda) to the Subah of Golconda, Muzepher Cawn has visited Salabat Jung and is desiring to be admitted into his Service, Garjamul Cawn is attending the Nabob who granted him a Title called Shemshair Jung. Muzepher Cawn of Cannoul has visited the Nabob, all the rest of the Jageerdars, Polligars &^ca. are come to the Nabob with their Forces.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, AUGUST 1756.*—— [6m°]

The above Intelligence agrees nearly with the Information of the Hircaras mention'd in Committee the 27th Ultimo, and gives room to beleive that if a Party of our Troops were Join'd to Salabat jung, Mr. Bussey wou'd not be long able to maintain his Post in Hyderabad; It gives us therefore a very sensible Concern to be oblig'd to suspend the Execution of that Design.

But as it is Still our Desire to make use of the Opportunity of Joining Salabat Jung if the arrival of any Reinforcement or of more pacifick Intelligence from Europe shou'd render it not dangerous to the Company's Settlements and Possessions in this Province, it is Resolved to defer as yet writing to Salabat Jung of our having Suspended the march of our Troops.

Letter from Captain Charles Campbell dated 1st Instant Read, inclosing monthly Returns of the Troops, Ammunition &ca. with a General Muster and an Indent for Stores.

As the Nabob has settled with Murtazally Cawn, Phousdar of Veloor, the Committee Judge it no longer necessary to keep the Army encamp'd at Arcot. Agreed that Captain Charles Campbell do repair to Fort St. David, to releive Captain Pascal, that Captain Pye, take the Command of the Troops at Arcot, leave one Company of Seapoys with Captain Maskelyne for the Service of the Garrison, and march the rest of the Army to Conjeveram, which being Situated between this Place and Arcot, is convenient for sending Reinforcements wherever they may be requir'd.

And that every extraordinary Expence may be put an end to, on the Arrival of the Army at Conjeveram. Ordered that all the Draft and Carriage Bullocks, Lascars, and Cooleys, be sent immediately hither bringing with them the Guns, Ammunition & Stores, excepting only two Field Pieces with their necessary Furniture, which are to kept [*sic*] with the Army.

Ordered that Letters be immediately wrote to Captain Campbell, Captain Pye, and Mr. Commissary Maunsell conformably to the foregoing Resolutions, and also that the Nabob be advis'd of them.

The President lays before the Committee a Paper of Representations deliver'd him by the Nabob's Brother-in Law Kieredy Cawn whom the Nabob sent hither lately to discourse more particularly on the Subjects of the several last Letters, enter'd in the Country Correspondence No. 174, 178, 181, 183, 185, and 202.

First, he represents on the part of the Nabob the good Consequences that must attend the Joining a Detachment of our Troops to Salabat jung, and recommends their Speedy March, desiring we will Acquaint him with the monthly Expence of the said Detachment.

Secondly he represents that the Chiefs of Ellavanasore, Worriarapollam and Arrielour refuse to pay him the usual Tribute and Rents, wherefore he desires we will Assist him in regulating those Affairs.

Thirdly he desires an Obligation in writing, Sign'd by the Committee promising to pay him in ready money the half Revenues of Tinnevelly Country for 3 Years, in the manner it is let to Moodille, Viz^{t}. 5½ Lacks of Rupees for the first Year, 6 Lacks for the Second, & 6½ for the third; Making no Allowance for Accidents, as the Failure of Moodille, the Ruin of the Country by Enemies &ca.

Fourthly he represents his Inability to assign twelve Lacks to the Company out of the Present Years Revenues of the Arcot Country, that considering the unavoidable Expence he is oblig'd to be at in presents at Court, Payments to the Morattas &ca it is with the utmost Difficulty he can Support himself, giving the Company Eight Lacks as last Year.

And Fifthly he desires the President will not object to his changing the Renters of Conjeveram, Terpasore &ca as before Requested in his Letter No. 160, it being for the Benefit of the Circar, and the Support of his Government.

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[6th.] ——*FORT St. GEORGE, AUGUST 1756.*——

The Committee having considered the beforemention'd Representations, Resolve to write the Nabob in Answer.

To the first that we are very sensible of the advantages of a Junction with Salabat Jung, but that we are under a necessity of suspending our Intentions on that head by reason of the danger of Calcutta, which is a Settlement of the utmost Consequence to the Company, that whenever our Troops are Sent to Salabat Jung we shall acquaint him with the monthly Expence.

To the Second that we shall take the first prudent Occasion of Settling the Affairs of Ellavanasore &ca. according to his desire.

To the third that he may be assur'd we shall abide by our Promise and punctually pay him the half of the Tinnevelly Revenues as we receive them from Moodille, bringing the other half to the Credit of his Account, but that it is impossible for us to consent, and unreasonable in him to expect us to be answerable for all Accidents.

To the fourth, that it is as much his Interest, as the Company's, to Supply us to the utmost of his Power with money, to enable us to carry on the War, and protect him & his Country that with the eight Lack we have not Sufficient for the Ordinary Expences, wherefore we must press him again for the Additional four Lacks, and if it is inconvenient for him to assign it out of the Arcot Revenues, he may give us an Order for that Sum to be receiv'd out of his half of the Tinnevelly Rents, which will be no Loss to him as he has often repeated that to this time he has receiv'd nothing from that Country.

And to the Fifth that we before recommended to him (Country letter dated 23d. June No. 163) not to turn out the old Renters of Conjeveram and Terpasore, before the Expiration of their Agreements as such Proceedings woud naturally deter all Persons of Credit from Renting his Countries, and consequently must hurt his Revenues; That our Opinion is still the same and therefore we repeat the same Counsel. Concluding with a General Assurance that all the advice we give him is intended for his Benefit and the Support of his Government; and therefore it is reasonable and Advantagious for him to consider in all things the Welfare of the Company.

Letter from the Nabob as Enter'd in the Country Correspondence No. 202, Read, inclosing Copies of two Letters which he has dispatch'd to the Great Mogul & his Vizir, representing the fidelity of the English to his Government and requesting that he will give orders to preserve their Settlements in Bengal upon the usual footing, free from any Disturbances.

Ordered that a letter be wrote to the Nabob thanking him for representing Affairs in a proper Light to the Mogul, and his Vizir.

Letter from Mahomed Usoff Cawn, the Nellour Subidar, Commanding the Company's Seapoys in the Tinnevelly Country Read, as enter'd No. 200 in the Country Correspondence, advising that he has settled with certain Polligars, and desiring a Supply of Cannon, Shot, and flints.

Agreed that Captain Caillaud be directed to Supply Mahomed Usoff Cawn with a few Flints and Cannon Shot, and that a Letter be wrote to Mahomed Usoff Cawn expressing our Approbation of his Proceedings with the Polligars, and our Desire that Moodille may be Settled as soon as possible in the Management of the Country, so that he may be enabled to give his promis'd Security in due time.

Mr. Alexander Wynch acquaints the Committee that in Consequence of the Company's Orders in their General Letter dated 19th December 1755 he has deliver'd over his employs and is ready to proceed to Fort St. David, but as the Company nowhere mention whether his Seat at this Board is vacated by his Removal, he desires the Committee will decide whether he does continue to be one of the Members or not, and whether Mr. Clive is to regard him as Such at St. David.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, AUGUST 1756.*—— [6TH.]

As our Honble Masters letters mention nothing to the contrary, it is unanimously Agreed that Mr. Wynch does remain one of the Select Committee, and is to be so esteem'd at St. David.

Order'd that Mr. Clive be appriz'd of this Resolution.

GEORGE PIGOT.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
AR WYNCH.
WILLM PERCEVAL.
ROBT PALK.

Pursuant to the Resolutions of the foregoing Committee dispatch'd the following Letters to Robert Clive Esqr, Captain John Caillaud, Captain Charles Campbell, and Captain William Pye.

To ROBERT CLIVE ESQR
DEPUTY GOVERNOR OF FORT ST. DAVID.

Sir,

Since we wrote you last, we have receiv'd your Letters dated the 14th, 19th & 30th July. The Draft on us from Bengal will not permit us to add to the Present Strength of your Garrison. We have wrote pressingly to Bombay for all kinds of Assistance, of which we hope to see the good Effects this month.

You will please to return the Deserter Trimien to Pondichery for although if his Story be true he does not come within the Stipulations of the Cartel, yet as it may possibly not be true we are unwilling to give Mr. Leyrit even the Chance of a Plea for detaining our men.

The President has desired Admiral Watson to order Search to be made for the rest of the ten men, that were missing from your Garrison and to give Directions for the preventing any of our men being receiv'd on board the Squadron in future. As the Detachments of Polier's and Guapp's Companies that are in your Garrison are very small and have no one of their Officers to look after them we desire they may [*sic*] sent up by the first Sea Conveyance, to Join their Companies. You must also send hither the Draft Bullocks that were bought on the Company's Account, and train'd to the Service of the Field Pieces.

Our Intelligence from Salabat Jung's Camp agrees with that which you transmitted to the President under date the 5d: August. Our Intentions of sending a Force to join him are Suspended by the News of the Danger of Calcutta and the Draft made on us from thence.

Mr. Wynch, who will shortly set out to be second at Fort St. David, being one of the Members appointed by the Secret Committee in the Nomination of the Select Committee at Fort St. George; as the Company do not mention that his Seat is to be vacated by his Removal to St. David, we think that he is Still to be esteemed as a member of this Committee. You will therefore consult with him in all matters relating to that Branch of the Company's Business which falls under [y]our Management.

We have directed Captain Charles Campbell to repair to your Garrision to relieve Captain Pascal.

We are Sir
Your most Obedient Servants
GEORGE PIGOT &CA: COMMITTEE.

Fort St: George
6th: August 1756.

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[6TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, AUGUST 1756.*——

No. 36. To CAPTAIN JOHN CAILLAUD.

Sir

We have receiv'd your letter No. 30 dated the 3d: July. You are to credit the Commissary for all Money you receive for the sale of Grain, keeping it for the Disbursements of the Garrison. The Commissary will credit the Nabob, so that the Nabob paying for the Store laid in, and being credited for the Sales it is indifferent to us what Price it is delivered at, as we think the Quantity you mention, a Store for seventeen Months is quite Sufficient. Your care therefore is only to see that the same Quantity is always kept in Store and that the Killedar shifts it at proper Seasons. We have wrote accordingly to the Nabob and reminded him also of the Money wanting for the last Estimates.

Usoff Cawn writes that he is in want of Flints and a few eighteen Pounder Shot with both which you may Supply him. We hope soon to hear that he has transmitted you the money for all the Hostages.

We have wrote both to the King of Tanjour and the Danes advising them to accommodate their Dispute amicably and we believe they are now in Treaty. Your care to prevent the Tents from damaging is very agreable to us for we find the Article of Stores a very heavy Charge.

We are Sir

Fort St: George — Your most Obedt. Servants

6th: August 1756. — GEORGE PIGOT &CA. COMMITTEE.

P.S. We have rece'd your Letter of the 17th: No. 31 with ye muster Rolls.

To CAPTAIN CHARLES CAMPBELL.

Sir

We have receiv'd your Letters dated 23d, 27th & 31st July, & 1st August Having appointed you to relieve Captain Pascal at Fort St. David, you are to deliver the Command of the Army to Captain William Pye and proceed thither as speedily as you conveniently can.

We are Sir

Fort St. George — Your most Obedient Servants

6th Augst. 1756. — GEORGE PIGOT &CA. COMMITTEE.

To CAPTAIN WILLIAM PYE.

Sir

Captain Campbell being appointed to do duty at Fort St. David, We have directed him to deliver over the Charge of the Army to you.

After putting one Company of Seapoys under the Command of Captain Maskelyne for the Service of Arcot, and the Dependent Garrisons you are to march the Army with the Field Pieces, Ammunition and Stores of all Sorts to Conjeveram.

On your Arrival there you are to quarter the Army in the Pagoda, putting an immediate Stop to the Batta and all extraordinary Charges. You are to keep two field Pieces, with a proper Number of Bullocks and the necessary Ammunition for their Service, all the rest of the Draft and Carriage, Bullocks, Lascars and Cooleys are to be dispatch'd hither on your Arrival at Conjeveram, bringing with them all the Ammunition Stores &ca. over and above the furniture of the two Field Pieces beforemention'd.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, AUGUST 1756.*—— [6TH.]

You are not to enlist any more Seapoys, Captain Campbell having Supplied us with as many as we want.

You must immediately Send in all the Supernumerary Serjeants, as we want Serjeants for the Garrison.

Advise us constantly of the State of the Army, and all material Occurrences.

We are Sir

Your most Obed^{t}· Servants

Fort S^{t}· George
6th· Augst 1756.

GEORGE PIGOT &^{CA} COMMITTEE.

Dispatch'd by Pattamar to Bombay the following Letter to the Select Committee there. 7TH.

To THE HOÑBLE RICHARD BOURCHIER ESQ^{R}·
PRESIDENT & GOVERNOR AND THE GENTLEMEN
OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE AT BOMBAY.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

Inclos'd are Duplicates of the two last letters we wrote You.

It having been resolved upon the fresh & more Strenuous Application of the Gentlemen of Bengal, to send a further Reinforcement of men there, We must repeat in the most pressing manner our Sollicitations that you will on no Account fail to Assist us with the men, Guns & Powder we have so often wrote for, and which we hope indeed are already on their Way to us.

We are Hoñble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obed^{t} hble Servants

Fort S^{t}· George
7th· August 1756.

GEORGE PIGOT &^{CA} COMMITTEE.

Receiv'd by Pattamar from Bombay, a Letter from the Select Committee there, dated 15th June. 15TH.

Receiv'd a letter from M^{r}· De Leyrit to the President dated 17th Instant, as enter'd in the French Correspondence No. 45. 20TH.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

GEORGE PIGOT ESQ^{R}· GOVERNOR PRESIDENT
STRINGER LAWRENCE HENRY POWNEY
ROBERT ORME WILLIAM PERCEVAL
ROBERT PALK.

SATURDAY THE 21ST.

The President acquaints the Committee that Intelligence was receiv'd on the 16th: Instant of the taking of Calcutta by the Moors on the 20th: June, in consequence of which it having been resolv'd in Council to send as large a Force as can possibly be spar'd from hence to make an Effort for the Re-Establishment of that Valuable Settlement, he dispatch'd Orders the 17th: Instant to Captain Pye to march hither with the Army from Conjeveram.

As this turn of Affairs will render us unable to detach any Party to Salabat Jung untill our Troops come back from Bengal, or some considerable Reinforcements arrive; It is now Agreed to write Letters to him, his Vizir Shawnavaz Cawn, and his Decan Mahomed Moheen Cawn, setting forth that our Desire of preserving the

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[21st.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, AUGUST 1756.*——

Carnateck from the Designs of the Enemy has expos'd us to the present Calamity in Bengal by the necessity we have been under of detaining all the Troops intended for that Place—explaining to them the Legality of the Company's Right to their Settlements in Bengal founded on the Phirmaunds of the Great Mogul—enlarging upon the Increase of the Riches and Revenues which those Settlements have brought into the Mogul's Country. and the vast Loss the Company have sustain'd by this unjust and violent Proceeding of the Nabob of Bengal which has oblig'd us to detach thither that very force which we had prepar'd for his (Salabat Jung's) Service,—and concluding with Assurances that we are under the greatest Concern for this Diappointment [*sic*] that we shall always be glad to assist in his affairs, and that as soon as a just Satisfaction is obtain'd from the Nabob of Bengal our Troops will return and be ready to act according to his Orders.

Letters from the Nabob, Salabat Jung, Mahomed Moheen Cawn, & Shawnavaz Cawn, as enter'd in the Book of Country Correspondence No. 218, 221, 222, 225, 226, 227, & 228, Read, pressing the Departure of the Troops intended to Join Salabat Jung. Ordered that Answers be wrote conformably to the Foregoing Paragraph of these Minutes.

Also that a Representation to the same Purport be address'd to the great Mogul and the Vizir at Delly, and forwarded to the Nabob requesting that he will cause them to be presented by means of his Vakeel there; That Balazarow be likewise inform'd of the Injury done us by the Nabob of Bengal, and that the Nabobs of Curapa and Kunnoul be appriz'd of the necessity we are under of altering the Destination of our Troops intended for the Assistance of Salabat Jung, that they may not wait for them.

Several Letters from Mahomed Usoff Cawn Commander of the Seapoys in the Tinnevelly Country and Tetarapah Moodille Renter of Tinnevelly Country Read, as enter'd in the Book of Country Correspondence. No. 208, 210, 217, 223, & 224. Usoff Cawn advises that on the 30th July Tetarapah Moodille's Gomasta came to him, and the next day he gave him an order in writing to take possession of all the Districts which were under his Management, and got him an Order to the Amuldars of the Nabob's Districts to deliver them likewise up to him, recommends Madura and Polumcota as the Properest Forts to be kept in the Company's Hands, incloses an Account of the Monthly Expence of the Seapoys under his Command, with an account of the money collected from the Tinnevelly Country, and from the Polligars and of what remains due from them, and represents that he is under great difficulties for want of money for the Payment of the Arrears due to the Seapoys—Moodille writes that his Gomasta went to Mahomed Usoff Cawn at Chevelpotoor on the 30th July, and appointed Managers over the Nadamundelum Country; that Usoff Cawn and his Gomasta set out together for Tinnevelly but Usoff Cawn wrote a Letter beforehand, in consequence of which his (Moodille's) People took possession of those Districts and he hopes soon to hear that the Rest of the Country is deliver'd over to his Management, that he shall exert himself for the Companys Benefit and the Good of the Country.

After Consideration had on the above-recited Letters it is Agreed to direct Usoff Cawn to apply the Ballance due to him for the last year from the Districts under his Management, and the Ballances remaining due from the Polligars, to the Payment of the Seapoys Arrears, to put such a Garrison into the Fort of Polumcota as he with the Concurrence of Captain Caillaud Shall think necessary, to leave with Moodille so many of the Seapoys, Guns, Stores &ca as he shall require and then march with the rest for Arcot. Madura being in charge of Danishmend Cawn the Nabob's Killedar, and maintain'd at his Expence, it is unnecessary to make any alteration there—And to write Moodille that it is with pleasure we observe the greatest part of the Country is already put under his Management, that as things are so far settled we hope he will produce the promis'd Security in due time, that as long as he exerts himself for the Good of the Country and fulfils the Terms of his Agreement he may be assur'd of our Protection.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, AUGUST 1756.*—— [21st.]

Letter also (as enter'd No. 211) from Mahofoz Cawn the Nabob's Brother who had the Management of the Tinnevelly Country advising of his discharging his Troops upon the News of the Cowle given to Moodille, but the money collected not being Sufficient for their Payment they are pressing him for Arrears which he therefore desires we will order Moodille to discharge out of this Year's Revenues.

In answer to Mahofoz Cawn's Letter it is Agreed to write him that if any Ballances remain due to him out of the last years Revenues Moodille will use his Endeavors to collect them for him, but that we cannot consent to apply the Revenues of the present Year to the Discharge of his old Arrears.

Letter from the Select Committee at Bombay Read as follows.

To the Honble George Pigot Esqr. President & Governor &ca.
members of the Select Committee at Fort st George.

Honble Sir & Sirs

Our last Address was under the 19th Ultimo, & we were favor'd with your advices of the 7th & 10th on the 3d instant, esteeming ourselves oblig'd to Your Honor &ca for the early Information, of the State of Affairs in Europe, receiv'd by the Delawar, which our Honble masters have repeated, in every Particular to the Board.

As we imagine the Ghereah Powder, wou'd not prove of any Service, unless new made, we shall find some means of supplying you with such of your own, as we can spare, likewise a Part of the Feild Artillery, receiv'd last Season from England, & tho' we acquainted your Honor &ca by Mr. Watson with the reasons which induced us to keep the King's Train, yet if on the arrival of our Ships in August, we find the Circumstances of Affairs will admit of our Sparing any, we shall take the best Steps in our Power, for assisting you with them.

In regard to sending the Protector, we cannot possibly comply with your Honor &cas Request therein, having barely men enough, for the rest of the Cruizers (even now She is dismantled) according to our present Establishment, besides we expect his Majesty's Squadron wou'd arrive immediately after the Date of your Honor &cas Letters, & we think that single Ship, wou'd be of little Service, in protecting the Trade on your Side, from the French Company's Ships, fitted as Men-of-War, and as the Apollo and Anglesea chose their Station, off this Place, the last War, and took our Honble Master's Ship Anson, & other Prizes, we Judge it absolutely necessary to keep the Protector tho' dismantled at present to be fitted on any Emergency.

We have the honor to be

Gentlemen,

Your most Obedt hble Servants

Richard Bourchier—Cha Crommelin—James Foulis—I. Spencer—Saml Hough.

Bombay Castle.
15th June 1756.

It is with much Concern the Committee observe that no Dependence can be plac'd on receiving Assistance from Bombay—Such a Disappointment at this time has many bad Effects. The Detachment for Bengal cannot be made so large as the Importance of the Expedition demands, for fear of exposing the Settlements on this Coast to be overpowerd; and the Intention of Joining Salabat Jung which might have been carried on if the expected Reinforcements had been sent us from Bombay

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[21st.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, AUGUST 1756.*——

must now be quite laid aside. The Protector wou'd have been particularly useful in the River of Bengal as it is doubtful whether the large Ships of the Squadron can be carried up to Calcutta, and we may add that our Representations ought to have met with more regard from the Gentlemen at Bombay, because the Secret Committee of the East India Company in their Letter dated 23th March 1755 to the Select Committee at Bombay, the 10th Paragraph, direct that the Artillery with the Stores and Men be employ'd so as to render them of the greatest Use that can be in Support of the Company's Affairs on this Coast;

Agreed therefore to write an answer to the Letter receiv'd from the Select Committee at Bombay Setting forth the great Reason we had to expect Assistance from them, and the bad Consequences of their failing to send us any; Pressing them also now again to supply us in the most expeditious manner with Men, Guns, & Stores before Requested.

The following letter from the Governor and Council of Tranquebar, Read,

To the Honble George Pigot Esqr. Governor, & the Gentlemen of the Council of Fort St. George at Madras.

Gentlemen

Your respective letter of the 22d instant together with a Translation of the King of Tanjour's writing to you yesterday duely came to our hands; We can't utter how great Wonderment the letter of the King caus'd us with its perusing, Seeing its Contents is nothing but lies and monstrous Contrivances: then to Say that the Sea had wash'd away a distance of our Territory, is a meer untruth, and therefore falleth away by itself as a Non-entity, that we shou'd have coveted another peice of two miles land in it's place. We only have been willing, as is related in ours of the 11th inst to force Perumal Naikker to cease from his Robbery, Plundering & thievishness, he in the Space of 6 Months continually had used upon the Company their Inhabitants, and also to take in some measure any Satisfaction for the damage he has caus'd us; and to this end we made march out to Anandamangulum a Body of about 44 Men, together with some Seapoys, the which Village is a Property belonging to the said Perumal Naiker, of which we did Speak in our former writing, that it in consequence of a Pawn-bond given out by Perumal Naiker (wherefore a Copy in the Malabarean tongue is, and now a translation in the English be send:) is devolved to our Royal Company; by all the which it manifestly appears that no trangression is committed on our Side in so far. But no Sooner our very little Body of men being arriv'd at Anandamangelum, they immediately were Surpriz'd by Perumal Naiker for which reason, Seeing no Retreat for themselves, they went into a Pagoda, & because Perumal Naiker did seek to attack them, three Small batterys of Clay were rais'd up there, and Six Guns planted thereupon; These our People have not been in a real Skirmishing with the Tanjoureans, but at Tillialy, a village belonging to the Royal Company, had, another more little Detachment of about twenty Europeans of ours, Send thither to save some of the Company's Nelle, when hearing that the Tanjourean People did approach into our Territory: (the misfortune, unawares to be assaulted and utterly massacred by a great many horse & foot men.) After this, perceiving how that the King of Tanjour did medle himself in this matter, we were come in with Perumal Naiker because a great Troop of horse and foot men did over run our Territority, [*sic*] we presently call'd back our Body, which came into the Town the 1st day of this Month. Touching the said Pagoda at Anandamangalam, we charg'd our People to Spare the same with its appurtences as much as posible without ruining any thing: and therefore it is a great untruth that we had let burn the Chariots, Since they are to this day Still in the same State as they were, before the troubles beginning. Further, that we shou'd have used as a Pretext that Perumal Naiker were in debt of money unto us, and that we had not acquainted the King of Perumal Naiker's insolences against us, is likewise but as great a False colour as the

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, AUGUST 1756.*—— [21—]

former, because it can be prov'd Sufficiently by us, that oft and many times, Yea, Frequently have complain'd for the King of Tanjour and the Court as well as to the Subeitar of Marjoram, and made them to know the Multifarious Chicanerys and great damage this Perumal Naiker has caused us from time to time; but the most time we got there upon no Answer at all, or receiving an Answer, it plainly did shew that the Court be partially, giving Perumal Naiker Approbation in all his wrong dealings, but not unto us obtaining of Justice. Yea, 'tis but one and half a Year ago, when on this Account we wrote a Letter, desiring therein to deliver us from Perumal Naiker; which us also were promis'd by the Subeitar of Majoram. Afterwards being now one Year past, we have Corresponded about this matter with Mr. Newton at that time English Resident there with the King of Tanjour, Informing him of Perumal Naiker's insolences against us: who can bear Witness together with us, that we have been not neglectful to complain with the Court of Tanjour for the sake of Perumal Naiker, but all Fruitless, & without any Effect. Has also the King of Tanjour no proper reason to make complaints against us, for having Seiz'd upon Anandamangalam to make us Master thereof, Seeing 'tis, as above Said, a Property now by Right belonging to the Company, but if any one deserveth to be complaint against, forsooth 'tis none but Perumal Naiker himself. Has he made a mistake, mortgaging that which was not his own, what is that to us, and what can we help it? Perumal Naiker is oblig'd to be Responsible for it to the King; but not we: and it cannot be taken amiss to us, that we hold to us our Pledge. But in the mean time, being our Affairs thus Situat'd we not yet have taken any Satisfaction for that great damage the Troops of the King of Tanjour has caus'd there upon the Territory of the Company with Robbery, burning and the like (which do amount to above one Lack of Pagods in value) altho' we have the greatest Reason thereto. All the which now we did in regard of your kind offer, Gentlemen, that you by Friendly means will make up this matter by the Court of Tanjour, to the which end we gave the accepted French Troops leave to return home til further, for not to give by their being here Occasion to any Displeasure.

As we now upon our honor Sacredly can assure Gentlemen, that it is the pure truth what we have related you, as well in our former Letter of the 11th Instant, as in this present Writing, and on the Contrary that all what the King of Tanjour has mention'd in his Writing, is a Rapsody of Lyings & untruth: of which our Neighbouring friend of English and French Nation are not ignorant of, and therefore can bear Witness with us of our Innocence of the thing Feign'd upon us by the King of Tanjour, wherewith we don't doubt, Gentlemen, you shall Reflect more upon our true narration then upon the King's lying Impeachments.

We have also the Confidence to you, Gentlemen, that in Consideration of your own good offer to adjust this differences in a far Composition with the Court of Tanjour, you shall endeavor, that we at least obtain the Village of Anandamangalum, that the King must forsake and give over to us for ever his Right on Account of the Annual Pension we hitherto did pay him; that Perumal Naiker must be deliver'd into our hands, or by the Court Punish'd deservedly, for not more to cause us henceforth any unquietness; and that us be made Restoration for that damage which is caused us upon our Villages. For the rest committing the whole Affair to your good Care, we assure to be always

Gentlemen Your Friends, and very humble Servants

Fort Dansborg H. G. Krog F. C. Hoyer
29th July 1756. I. H. Gille T. Volguards.

Translation of a Pawn-bond given out by Purumal Naiker, and the Inhabitants of the Village of Anandamangalum, in the Malaberean tongue to died Commandor Iver Bonsach, for 1000d. Pardaos lent money. Anno 1743, May the 31st. We the Subcribers of this, I Perumal Naiker, together with us Inhabitants of the Village

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[21st.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, AUGUST 1756.*——

of Anandamangalam have given out to the Commandor Iver Bonsach at Tranquebar this Bond following:

As we to our necessity did lent and receiv'd from Commandor Iver Bonsach 1000d. Parda'os in Silver fanams: so mortgage we unto him by this Bond the Village of Anandamangalum, and oblige us also, to repay this money, together with it's rents; Viz^{t}. 15 ℔^{r} Ct ℔^{r} Annum, on the 30th March of the Year next coming: but in case of not paying at the time appointed, the said Village of Anandamangalum with its 8^{ths} thereunto belonging. Fields shall be devolved to the Royal Company.

Thus in this manner of us all Unanimously done, and Agreed, we Subscribe it the one for all & All for one.

The Writer of this bond is Saraff Tandairam.

Ramah, Perumal Naiker
Ramah, Puttiren Chief Coneycoply
Collenda—Naiker
Dasary—Naiker
Wingeta—Naiker
Shina Ramah—Naiker
Sevatsi Ramah—Naiker
Suaminada—Pulle
Whal—Naiker
Wirappen, Son of Paradesi Pareiatshy

a copy

H. G. Krog.

The Gentlemen at Tranqubar still insist on the Validity of the Right convey'd to them by the Mortgage of Permal Naiker Polligar over the Village of Anandamungalum, arguing that if the Polligar has mortgaged what was not his own, but the King of Tanjour's, that he, the Polligar must be answerable to the King but that the mortgag'd Village is answerable to them--This Argument appears to the Committee to be inconsistent with the Laws of Reason and Equity for it seems to us that if any Person mortgage a Property belonging to another, the lawful Proprietor cannot lose his Right, but the Person who accepted the Mortgage must seek Satisfaction from him who gave it. Thus the King of Tanjour being the lawful Master of the Village of Anandamangulum cannot lose his Right by means of the Mortgage bond which the Polligar Permal Naiker took upon him to give, but the Gentlemen of Tranquebar must have Satisfaction from the Pollygar who gave it.

The Committee therefore are of Opinion that for the Equitable Determination of the Present Difference, the King of Tanjour ought either to deliver up Perumal Naiker the Polligar to the Danes, or punish him, and oblige him to be answerable for the Debt he owes, and the damage he has done, or caused to be done, to the Danes; and that they on their part keep within their ancient Limits without encroaching on the Dominions of the King of Tanjour.

Letter from Robert Clive Esqr. Read, as follows

To the Hoñble George Pigot Esq^{e}.
and the Gentlemen of the Select Committee

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

Before your favor of the 6th Augst came to hand the Major Part of the Draft Bullocks belonging to the Company had set out for Madras the rest Shall be sent immediately.

The Deserter Trimien Shall be return'd agreable to your Directions & the men of Polier's & Gaupp's Companys sent by the first Sea Conveyance.

I have receiv'd some Intelligence which I think may be depended on, Viz^{t}., that a Camel is arriv'd Express at Pondichery from Salabat Jung with Proposals for an Accommodation: if there be any truth in this Report (as I fear there is) you will best know what Reflections to make or Steps to

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, AUGUST 1756.*—— [21st]

take upon so important a Subject, it is said Salabat Jung is under great Apprehensions of being left to the mercy of the Morattas if the French are destroy'd, and that [he ?] depended on the Assistance of the English to protect him against their Superior Forces.

I find it was the Practice of the late Deputy Governor to send the Paymaster a half monthly Account of Spy money expended, Specifying the particular Places where such Spies were Station'd & how employ'd, the Absurdity of this Custom needs no Explanation and if you approve of it, will only make the Company Dr. to Cash expended on Secret Services & transmitt to you the Particulars of that Expence Monthly—there are several unnecessary Articles which I have struck off and am with Respect

Hoñ'ble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obedt. Servant

Fort St. David.
9th August 1756.

Robert Clive.

The Committee are quite of Opinion with Mr. Clive that the particulars of the Charges for Secret Service ought not to be communicated to any but this Board, and it will be sufficient if he transmits it Monthly to the President—As Mr. Clive is expected here in three or four days it is Ordered that this Minute be communicated to him.

The following Letter from Capt. John Caillaud Read.

To the Hoñble George Pigot Esqr. President & Governor &c Gentlemen of the Committee at Madras.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

My last was dated the 17th of July, with the muster Rolls according to the orders in your favor of the 6th No. 35, a few days before, I was also honor'd with yours of the 30th June No. 34. No. 33.

I must beg you will please to excuse my not complying this month, with the order for the Killedar's Signing along with me, all the Disbursements on the Nabob's Account, as I am not quite certain, that I understand the order perfectly, whether it is the whole of the Monthly Account (the Subsistance of the Military excepted) or what part of it; you will please to inform me. I beleive it will also be necessary, for to desire the Nabob to let the Killedar know, he is to Sign those Accounts; least on my asking I receive the same Answer as I do to most things, that he has not the Nabobs order.

I have endeavor'd to be as particular as possible in my Charges of this month, The only ones on examining my Accounts, in I [*sic*] which I found I was not so, were; The Hospital Charges, Those for the use of the Artillery, Extraordinary Batta, and Presents to the Hircaras, and Coleries. The Particulars of the two first were given in to me Monthly, Sign'd by the Surgeon, and the Artillery Officer. Those Accounts as receiv'd I now send; and make a General Charge for them in my Account, which method if you chuse, may be pursued in future. Or the whole Inserted in my Accounts, As you will please to Direct.

The Charges in the Article of extraordinary batta, I have particulariz'd, & shall always continue to do so. As to the last Article of Presents to Hircaras, & Coleries. It wou'd be difficult for me to do it, It is given for Intelligence, rewards for Expedition, the usual Batta of a Fanam ℔r Day, to Hircaras, which I cannot dispatch immediately, & presents upon many little Occasions I make. I beg therefore if possible you will be pleas'd to dispense me from particulars, and also to do me the Justice to think that I

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[21st.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, AUGUST 1756.*——

am as true to my trust in those General Charges, As I am in those Articles, of which you, yourselves Gentlemen may be Judges of their Exactitude, & truth.

As I have not been honor'd with an Answer to my Letter dated 4th July No. 30 I did not think proper to apply the money, arrising from the Sale of the old Grain, to the Disbursements of the Garrison, Untill I had receiv'd your orders. Nor having yet receiv'd the Polligars money (which tho' the Nellour some time ago Inform'd me he had receiv'd & paid into the Merchants to be remitted, to me by bill) I have drawn a small bill this month of 2500 Pagds. which with the Ballance will answer the Expence.

Tetarapah Moodille is arriv'd here, and sets out as he says in three or four days for Tinnevelly. Mahofoz Cawn is arriv'd at Madura, & there stopt by his Troops until he discharge their Arrears of pay, as they hear a new Renter is come to the Country. The Arrears amount it is Said, to no less a sum then seven Lack of Rupees. Mahomed Usoff Complains also much of Wanting Money for his expences, but as yet has not drawn on me, according to your Permission.

There are no orders come yet from the Nabob to his Killedar, to pay the Expence of the two last Estimates given in. Tho' you were pleas'd to Inform me in your Letter of the 11th June No. 33 that you had wrote to the Nabob Concerning it.

Inclos'd I have the honor to transmit you the monthly Returns, & Accounts and to remain with great Respect

Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedient and
Faithful Servant

Trichenopoly
2d. Augst 1756.

JOHN CAILLAUD.

P.S. Since Writing the above I have advice of a French Party marching away from the Garrison of Sherringham to Pondichery between 60, & 100 men.

Agreed to write Captain Caillaud that the Accounts which we wou'd have Sign'd by the Nabob's Killedar, are all those for Which the Nabob advances Money, or is debted, that for the Charges Hospital and Artillery, Stores, the sending the Copies of the Surgeon's and Train Officers Bills will be a very regular Method, and he must endeavor also to describe the Charges of Hircaras and Colleries as particularly as possible.

Mr. Leyrit's Letter (as enter'd No. 45 in the Book of French Correspondence) Read, with the Representation of two Inhabitants of the Outremaloor District, complaining that a Party of Seapoys from Conjeveram drove off a Flock of their Sheep and pick'd out a hundred and thirty of the fattest, for which Payment was offer'd but they the Inhabitants did not chuse to Sell them. The President acquaints the Committee that having enquir'd into the Grounds of this Complaint he finds that the Inhabitants have since taken the money, and are contented; which it is Agreed to write to Mr. Leyrit, remarking to him that our Commanders are ordered to supply themselves always with Provisions from our own Districts, but if it so happen, that none is procurable there, then they must of necessity Seek to furnish themselves from the neighbouring Country, and in such case if a Reasonable price is paid, we can see no room for Complaint.

Letter from the Nabob as enter'd No. 219 in the Book of Country Correspondence, Read, inclosing two Papers, one a Copy of the five Articles of Indulgence demanded by Murtaz Ally Cawn to be sign'd by the Nabob, the other the Form of a Letter of Confirmation of the same Articles which he requires under the hands of the Governor & Council —After the Receipt of those Papers so Sign'd, Murtazally Cawn engages to send a Bill for the Money agreed on.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, AUGUST 1756.*—— [21st.]

The Nabob does not mention the Sum but we imagine it is to be the same as is Stipulated in the Papers before receiv'd and read in Committee 29th June last Viz^{t}. Rupees 125,000-and Pagodas 64,660. The Indulgences requir'd are the same as are therein recited with this additional Article that they are to descend to and be fully enjoy'd, by Ally Dost Cawn (Son to the old Nabob of Arcot Subterally Cawn) who having married Murtazally Cawn's Daughter is intended to Succeed him in the Government of Veloor.

The Nabob remarks in the same Letter that Murtazally Cawn discovering that we were eager for the Conclusion of an Agreement with him has form'd such Demands as will best Suit him; and therefore He (the Nabob) advises that we do not consent to the Terms if Circumstances will by any means admit of avoiding it.

Ordered that these Papers do lye on the Table to be further Considered.

M^{r}. Commissary Orme delivers in the following Report of the Accounts of Camp Disbursements for the Months of May, June & July.

To the Honble George Pigot Esqr.
President, and the Gentlemen of the Select Committee.

Honble Sir & Sirs

I now do myself the honor to acquaint you that I have examin'd the Accounts of Camp Disbursements for the months of May, of June & July. In May Lieutenant Wagner commanding Captain Gaupps Company in their March to Carangoly is paid Captain's Batta for 4 days at 6 Rup^{s}. ℔^{r} Day, Rupees 24—The Difference is 6 Rupees, The Orders given on this Subject at the time that I presented my last Report will prevent these additional Allowances in future. There is no other Overcharge in these Accounts which has occur'd to my Observation.

It may be right to inform you that the Seapoys kept in Bommerauze's Country amount monthly to no contemptible sum. When he shall have paid his Agreements if you shall think proper to demand this Charge likewise from Bommerauze, It may easily be abstracted and sent to him. I thought it my duty to make this Observation and am with Respect

Honble Sir & Sirs Your most Obedient & most humble Servant

Robert Orme.
Commissary.

Madras
11th Augst. 1756.

The Order made in Committee 19th June last will prevent in future any Mistakes in the Payment of Batta to Officers Commanding Detach'd Parties; The Seapoys being withdrawn from Bommerauze's Country there will be no further Charge on that head, the expence that has been incurr'd it is Agreed to demand from that Polygar, who has not however yet paid any part of his Cadjan Obligation for Seventy thousand Rupees.

George Pigot.
Stringer Lawrence.
Henry Powney.
Robert Orme.
Willm Perceval.
Robt Palk.

Pursuant to the Resolutions of the Foregoing Committee, Sent a Letter dated Yesterday to M^{r}. De Leyrit as enter'd N°. 46 in the Book of French Correspondence. Also the following Letters to the Governor & Council of Tranquebar, Captain Cailland, and the Select Committee at Bombay.

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[23rd.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, AUGUST 1756.*——

To the Hoñble Hans George Krog Esqr.
Govrnor, & the Gentlemen of the Council
of Fort Dansborg at Tranquebar.

Gentlemen

We have receiv'd and perus'd with due attention your Favor dated 29th July last. We are perfectly assur'd of the Truth of all the Facts which you there recite and we observe the Translation of the Bond given to you by Perumal Naiker which Bond wou'd be very valid and Sufficient for you to insist on if it can be proved that the said Perumal Naiker has a Just Right to the Property of the said Village, otherwise the said Bond can be of no force; For you will give us leave Gentlemen to differ from that part of your Letter which argues that a Man has a Power to mortgage what is not his own, and that such a Mortgage ought to take Place; Our Opinion which is founded on the Plainest Equity is this; When any Man gives a Mortgage of a Property which belongs to another, the lawful Proprieter cannot lose his Right, but he who receives the Mortgage must seek Justice from him who gives the Mortgage. If it was otherwise no Person wou'd be Safe in his own Property. In the present case it appears to us that the Polligar Perumal Naiker has had the Rashness to mortgage a Village belonging to the Sovereignty of the King of Tanjour; The King cannot lose his Right by this deed of the Polligar who gave the Mortgage.

We think therefore that in order to arrive at a Just Composition of this difference It can only be requir'd in our behalf from the King of Tanjour that he either deliver Perumal Naiker into your hands or punish him for his ill Behaviour, Oblige him to make ample Reparation for all the Damage that has been caused you by means of this dispute and put it out of his Power to raise any future Disturbance, and in Behalf of the King of Tanjour it will be requir'd of you to keep within your Proper and ancient Limits without encroaching upon his Dominions.

We have been waiting for an answer from the King of Tanjour to the first letter which we address'd to him on this Subject, but have not yet receiv'd any. We have given you our Opinion above with all the Clearness and Frankness possible and we cannot doubt of your being convinc'd of the Equity of our Propositions. As soon as you shall be pleas'd to acquaint us that they are Agreable to You, we will transmit them to the King of Tanjour who will we are persuaded concur also on his Part in so reasonable a Decision of the present Differences.

We are very Perfectly Gentlemen
Your Friends & very
humble Servants

George Pigot—Stringer Lawrence—Henry Powney—Robert Orme
William Perceval—Robert Palk.

Fort St. George
23rd. Augst. 1756.

To Captain John Caillaud.

No. 37. Sir

We have before us your letter No. 32 dated 2d. August.

The Nabob's Killedar is to countersign the account of all Disbursements for which the Nabob advances Money or is debted; that is your whole account except the Subsistence of the Military. We have desir'd the Nabob to give orders to his Killedar accordingly; we have also wrote to him in a third time for the Amount of your two last Estimates.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, AUGUST 1756.*—— [24ᵗʰ.]

Your method of transmitting us Copies of your Surgeons and Artillery Officers Bills, and making a General Charge of them in your Account, is very Sufficient. In the Articles of extraordinary Batta; and presents to Hircaras & Cooleys You will be as particular as you conveniently can. We doubt not your Exactitude and Truth, but it may be necessary for us to prove every Article of the Nabob's account, and to produce Vouchers Sign'd by his own Agent.

We inclose Copies of the Letters we now write to Usoff Cawn and Moodille by which you will be acquainted that Usoff Cawn is to come away as soon as possible with all the Force which Moodille can part with, and also that it is our Intention to garrison the Fort of Polumcota with the Company's Seapoys. You are accordingly to concert with Usoff Cawn, what Seapoys it will be most convenient to leave with Moodille, and what Number will be necessary for the Garrison of Polumcota which is to be under your Orders. Moodile must be advis'd of this last Circumstance as the Garrison is to be paid by him.

We are Sir

Your most Obedient Servants

GEORGE PIGOT &ᶜᴬ COMMITTEE.

Fort Stᵗ. George
23ᵈ. August 1756.

TO THE HONBLE RICHARD BOURCHIER ESQᴿ. PRESIDENT & GOVERNOR & THE GENTLEMEN OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE AT BOMBAY.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

It is with the greatest Concern we observe by your favor of the 15ᵗʰ June that we cannot depend on receiving from you any part of those Succours which we have so often and Strenuously requested.

Your Failing to comply with our Repeated and earnest Applications cannot but be of the utmost ill Consequence to the Interest of our Hoñble Masters. We have already advis'd you of the dangerous Disturbances rais'd by the new Nabob of Bengal, who having taken Cazimbuzar, threatned Calcutta also—Upon the first news we sent a Detachment of two hundred & thirty Europeans, and in our last Letter dated 7ᵗʰ Instant we appriz'd you of our Resolution to send a Second Reinforcement.

But before the necessary Preparations cou'd be made for their Departure, we receiv'd the melancholy news of the taking of Calcutta, by the Nabob's Army on the 20ᵗʰ June. Our Information to this time gives us no particulars of this unfortunate Event, except that Governor Drake with most of the Council and some of the other Gentlemen are on board the Ships at Fulta; It is Said and we fear with Truth that all the Effects belonging as well to the Compy as to Private Persons have been plundered.

We are too sensible of the dreadful Effects of this Calamity, if no Reparation is to be obtain'd for our Hoñble Masters, not to exert our utmost Endeavors to engage the Nabob by Treaty or oblige him by Force of Arms and Reprizals to give Satisfaction for the Damages Sustain'd and to restore our Factories with such Priviledges as will put us hereafter on a better footing of Security in that Province. Some of his Majesty's Ships and a Detachment of men are preparing for this Expedition.

But the want of your Assistance which we confess Gentlemen we thought we cou'd have depended on, puts it out of our Power to send such a Force as we shou'd otherwise have employed on this important Design, so as to prevent a Miscarriage the Consequences of which wou'd be fatal.

It has oblig'd us also to drop our Intention of Joining a Body of our Troops to Salabat Jung although he had importun'd us frequently, and we had promis'd to send

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[24TH]

——*FORT ST GEORGE, AUGUST 1756.*——

a Force to him; but we now fear that the Opportunity of establishing that Valuable Alliance will be lost, and that our Failing to Support him at so critical a Time will render him indifferent to us for ever.

By our last advices Mr. Bussy was entrench'd in an advantagious Post in the City of Hyderabad surrounded by the Troops of Salabat Jung who was himself arriv'd near to that City. Mr. Law was marching with a Considerable Reinforcement from Metchlepatam to releive Mr. Bussy.

If this Junction Shou'd be effected there is too much reason to fear Salabat Jung, unsupported by any European Assistance, will be oblig'd by the Force of the French to make them larger Concessions than they have before obtain'd by Favor; the fatal Effects of which cannot be better explain'd than in the Secret Committee's Letter of 26th March 1755 address'd to you, Gentlemen,—The Assistance we have so often requested of you might, and must say ought to have been sent us in Consequence of the 10th Paragraph of the said Letter.

The Protector, besides the purposes mention'd in our Letter of the 10th May wou'd have been of especial Service in the Present Expedition to Bengal as it is to fear'd [*sic*] the large Ships of the Squadron cannot without too great a Risque be carried up to Calcutta.

We thought it our duty to represent thus much to You for our Justification in all Circumstances—We must add that as we shall be oblig'd to leave a large Part of our Force in Bengal if the Company's Settlements there shou'd happily be re-establish'd, it will be absolutely necessary for the Security of our Possessions on this Coast that you send us in the most expeditious manner as large a Reinforcement as you can possibly Spare, both of Military and Train, together with the Field Pieces, and Powder we before desir'd.

Before this reaches you we doubt not you will have been informed by the Rose Galley, of the unfortunate loss of the Dodington on the Island of Chaos in July 1755. Fifteen of her Crew that were saved arriv'd here on the Carnarvon.

We are Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedient
humble Servants

Fort St. George
24th August 1756.

GEORGE PIGOT &CA. COMMITTEE.

Arriv'd Robert Clive Esqr. from Fort St. David.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

GEORGE PIGOT ESQR. GOVERNOR PRESIDENT
ROBERT CLIVE — STRINGER LAWRENCE
HENRY POWNEY — ROBERT ORME
WILLIAM PERCEVAL — ROBERT PALK.

WEDNESDAY THE 25TH.

Letter receiv'd last night from Captain Caillaud Read as follows.

No. 33. TO THE HOÑBLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQR. PRESIDENT AND GOVERNOR &C GENTLEMEN OF THE COMMITTEE AT MADRAS.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

I have this Instant receiv'd a letter from Mahomed Usoff Cawn of which I have the honor to Inclose a Copy. The new [*sic*] is also confirm'd at Madura; that the

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, AUGUST 1756.*—— [25TH.]

Mayana's Brother is march'd in, at the Request of Mahofoz Cawn, and our Seapoys turn'd out of the Fort. The Letter says the Subidars were Prisoners, but they are since released, & sent out of town to their Company's.

It is to be hoped, the Nellour by his Speedy and prudent march, will be in time to prevent Mahofoz Cawn in his designs, whatever they may be. He must be arriv'd at Madura before this, & I shall with all expedition transmit the first Accounts I receive from him.

I have wrote to Mahofoz Cawn, and desir'd to know how true the affair was, & the reason of such extraordinary behavior, and that I expected to hear in his Answer, that he had turn'd the Mayana's brother out, and receiv'd the Company's Seapoys again. Or that he might expect the worse that cou'd happen, and that his Family here, Shou'd be Securities to the Nabob for his Behaviour.

I have the honor to be with great Respect

Hoñble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedient
& faithful Servant

Trichenopoly
19th Augst. 1756.

JOHN CAILLAUD.

MAHOMED USOFF CAWN TO CAPTAIN CAILLAUD.

You were acquainted with all the news from this place by my last Letters. After I had sent some Seapoys, as you desir'd to meet Tetarapah Moodille; I was inform'd that Mahofoz Cawn, had sent for the three Subidars, belonging to the Company's, which were left at Madura. And that when they came to him, he put them Prisoners, and turn'd all their Seapoys out of the Fort. That he had also given to the Mayana Ferrambour Fort (which Colo. Heron had taken at no little Expence) and likewise all the Pady in it, amounting in value to above forty thousand Rupees. That on the Seapoys being turn'd out, the Mayanas Brother was come into the Town, and Staid with the Nabob, who was araising all the Colleries he cou'd in the Country, with an Intention to fight. Upon hearing of all this, I have set out with all my Force, and when I arrive there, you shall be inform'd of every thing. I have receiv'd the money from Katabominaigue. But not having receiv'd one Cash from the Country, or Tetarapa Modille, I was oblig'd to make use of it to pay the People with me, I am now hastening to Madura.

Tinnavelly
12th Augst 1756.

It is scarce to be imagin'd, that Mahofoz Cawn wou'd be so rash, as to Join Myana, with a Design to make himself independent Master of Madura, in rebellion against his own Brother, while Usoff Cawn, the Nellour Subidar is one Side of him with a large Body of the Company's Seapoys, and Captain Caillaud on the other with the Garrison of Trichenopoly, he himself destitute at the same time both of Money and Men.

Certainly his turning out the Companys Seapoys from the Fort, and having a Conference with the Mayana are unaccountable Circumstances, but we hope to find by the next Advices that some Disturbances occasion'd by the Seapoys pressing for their Arrears may have been the Cause.

It is Incumbent on us however to take Measures for the Security of those Country's Supposing that Mahofoz Cawn Shou'd have bad Designs.

To this end it is Agreed to write to Usoff Cawn to follow the orders of Capt. Caillaud.

* The Rebel Governor of Madura, who made his Escape when Colo. Heron march'd there with ye. Army.

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[25TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, AUGUST 1756.*——

And to direct Captain Caillaud in case it Shou'd appear that Manofoz Cawn is acting the part of an Enemy, then immediately to take vigorous measures for preventing him before he can be Join'd by a number of Colleries, or be Strengthen'd by an Alliance with the Polligars; having regard on the one Side to the Security of the Country; on the other to the preservation of Mahofoz Cawn from Disgrace untill certain Proofs Shall be seen of his evil Intentions.

Agreed also that the Nabob be advis'd of the Intelligence receiv'd, of our Opinion on it, and the Orders we have Given.

GEORGE PIGOT.
ROBERT CLIVE.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
WILL^M. PERCEVAL.
ROB^T. PALK.

Sent the following Letter to Captain Caillaud pursuant to the Resolutions of last Committee.

No. 38. To CAPTAIN JOHN CAILLAUD.

Sir

We receiv'd last night your letter of the 19th. with the Copy of that which Mahomed Usoff Cawn wrote to You. We can hardly suspect that Mahofoz Cawn will be so imprudent as to Join Myana with hostile Designs without Money and without Force and we flatter ourselves that his turning the Seapoys out of the Fort will prove to be nothing more than a Disagreement occasion'd by their pressing him for their Arrears.

But in all Circumstances the Letter you write him to turn out the Myana from the Fort and receive back the Company's Seapoys was very proper, and Usoff Cawns immediate March from Tinnevelly a prudent Step; for if it shou'd appear that Mahofoz Cawn really has a Design to Set himself up independent at Madura, it will be best to take vigorous Measures for preventing him, before he shall have got together a number of Colleries, or Strengthen'd himself by an alliance with the Polligars.

On the other hand we woud be cautious of exposing a Brother of the Nabob's to Disgrace untill he is certainly known to be acting the Part of an Enemy.

We inclose Copies of our Letters to the Nabob and Usoff Cawn on this Occasion: Untill we have a more particular Knowledge of Mahofoz Cawn's Designs we can give you no other Guide but our beforemention'd General Instructions. We leave the Rest to your Discretion, and have therefore, as you will observe, refer'd Usoff Cawn entirely to your Orders.

We are Sir
Your most Obed^t. Servants
GEORGE PIGOT &^c. COMMITTEE.

Fort S^t. George
25th. Aug^st 1756.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

TUESDAY, THE 7TH SEPT^R.

GEORGE PIGOT ESQ^R. GOVERNOR PRESIDENT
ROBERT CLIVE — STRINGER LAWRENCE
HENRY POWNEY — ROBERT ORME
WILLIAM PERCEVAL — ROBERT PALK.

The following Letters from Captain John Caillaud Read.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, SEPTEMBER 1756.*—— [7th]

To the Honble George Pigot Esqr. President and Governor &ca.
Gentlemen of the Committee at Madras.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

I had the honor of addressing you on the 19th Instant No. 33, with the Copy of a Letter receiv'd from Usoff Cawn, that gave the First accounts of Mahofoz Cawn's Proceedings in the Madura Country. I have waited ever Since, to transmit you more particulars of this Affair, for letters from the Nellour on his Arrival at Madura, from whom I have receiv'd but two. One, dated the 16th on his march, a Repitition almost of the Former; and one, last night dated the 21st at a place called Triperumconum Six English miles from Madura. No. 34.

There is nothing material in this last letter, an account of a small engagement between one of his Parties, and some of Mahofoz Cawn's horse, in which the latter was oblig'd to retire. He complains heavily of want of money for his Expences, Moodille not yet having help'd him. This may be some mistake, as Moodille not three days ago, inform'd me, he had order'd him Rups. 20,000 and promis'd me, he shou'd take care he should not want. Moodille was Still at Nattom when he wrote last, but said he was on the Point of setting out to meet the Nellour. I hope when they come together, that difficulty about the money may cease, I beg leave to be inform'd, Since Moodille is oblig'd by his Contract to find money for the Payment of the Troops, whether your Former directions on that head, (of answering Usoff Cawn's Bills, Shou'd he draw) are still in force. It is possible the Renter may find it a difficult matter to get money at first, untill these troubles are Settled.

I now inclose Copy of a Letter from Mahofoz Cawn to the Killedar of this place, which, he also desir'd might be also transmitted to Arcot, he there endeavors to Justify himself, by laying all the Blame on his Troops, who force him to act, and make use of his name, as they think it may be of Service in the Country, and a Sanction to them.

Whatever Mahofoz Cawn may Say, to make it appear rather a mutiny, than a Rebellion, I beleive from all appearances, that the Scheme (tho' perhaps not of his own Contriving) yet has his full Approbation, and all the Assistance, his good will, & Inclination can give it. The Person, suspected as Projector, and Adviser of it, according to Moodille's Intelligence, is Sampetrow; Before I heard this I paid him a Visit, on the first news of the Affair at Madura, he seem'd to make very light on't; And told almost the same Story in Mahofoz Cawn's Defence, as the other has Since wrote. How that he was forc'd by the mutiny of his Troops for want of Pay, to act as they pleas'd, On that, I desir'd Sampetrow, as a man of weight in the Country, to write Circular Letters to the Polligars, Informing them of those Circumstances and that therefore they were not to observe any Orders coming from Mahofoz Cawn. But he excused himself by saying he wou'd not act without the Nabob's order.

If this Report be true, that he has been the adviser of the Project, I Suppose he may be employ'd as Mediator in the Affair, by the Nabob, between the Honble Company, and his Brother; and from thence it may be easily seen, how far he has been concerned.

Mahofoz Cawn before he sent People to take Possession of the Country in his name, had the usual form observ'd, of a Person mount'd on an Elephant, Saluted, & treated with great Ceremony; & from whom he was Said, to have receiv'd the Nabob's Phirmaund for the Country; he has wrote to all the Polligars, but none I can hear seem'd Inclin'd to Stir but Katabominague. The Pulitaver as a friend to Moodille, has assur'd him he wou'd be quiet. The two Renters for the Country appointed by Mahofoz Cawn are Barkatoolah Killedar of Madura, renter of the Nadamundelum District, & Meer Jaffier for Tinnevelly.

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[7ème.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, SEPTEMBER 1756.*——

On the first notice of the Affair I wrote to all the Polligars requiring them to pay no Obedience to any orders but those from the Nabob or the Hoñble Company, to whom he had given the Country for some years, and desiring them to assist in every thing the Company's Renter Moodille, & the Commander of the Troops Usoff Cawn.

If the troubles in that Country shou'd continue; the expence of Ammunition will fall heavy on this Garrison. I made an Indent some time ago of which only Part, has been complied with, and the most material Articles omitted, such as Powder, lead & flints, which things and some others the Storekeeper at Fort St. Davids Mr. Fairfield said he had not where with all to supply me. I beg you will be pleas'd to take this into Consideration.

I remain wt. great Respect Hoñble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedt. & faithful Servant
JOHN CAILLAUD.

Trichenopoly
28th Augst. 1756.

To the Hoñble George Pigot Esqr. President & Governor &ca.
Gentlemen of the Committee at Madras.

Honble Sir & Sirs

N. 85. I had the honor of addressing you No. 34 on the 28th Instant, Since which I have receiv'd some letters from Usoff Cawn, one from Mahofoz Cawn, and one also from Barkatoola.

Usoff Cawn's were dated from the same place I mention'd in my last. A Strong Post on the Confines of the Madura Country. By which disposition he effectually Secures all our Districts, He says he will remain quiet, & if the Enemy chuses to attack him, he hopes to give a good account of them, he thinks his force quite Sufficient, unless Mahofoz Cawn shou'd draw into his Alliance other Country Powers; to whom it is Said he has applied, such as the Mysore, and the Marravar.

Inclos'd I have the honor to send a translation of Mahofoz Cawn's Letter, and Barkatoolah's, with my Answers to them both, which I hope will prove Satisfactory.

Mahofoz Cawn, I beleive now thinks he has embarked himself in a very Foolish Affair, without money, and without Alliances; & indeed I am somewhat inclin'd to think, he has been drove into it in a great measure, by the importunity of his Troops who want their Pay; And whatever means they might propose for effecting it, he was oblig'd to agree to. It is certain while this Debt remains, and while Mahofoz Cawn is in their hands, they will oblige him to come into all their Measures. But what more is to [be ?] apprehended, wou'd be their getting a man at their head, who wou'd discharge their Debt, keep them in Pay, on conditions they wou'd promise to stand by him, and Assist him in any Attempts on the Country.

While I was writing the above, there came in the inclos'd petition, Address'd to the Hoñble Governor, and all the English Officers, Sign'd by the Jemidars at Madura, Setting forth their Grievances for want of Pay, and that all these troubles have been occasion'd on that Account.

If I might be permitted on this Occasion to offer my Sentiments, I wou'd take the liberty to propose that some Consideration be had to the Request of those People, as the best means to put an end to this trouble, and that some Concessions made in their favor, wou'd perhaps be a Saving in the end; Since certainly while these People remain dissatisfied, a Force must be kept up, Sufficient to awe them.

Their demand is four Lack. An abatement as is Customary on settling Accounts in this Country must be made. Moodille to be Answerable for one half out of the Tinnavelly Country, Barkatoolah for the other as Renter of Madura. These two men

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———*FORT ST. GEORGE, SEPTEMBER 1756.*——— [7mo.]

have Interest enough in the Country to raise a Lack from the Merchants, to Satisfy the People for the present; for the Remainder they must wait to receive it at different Payments. But at the same time, they may be inform'd as they will make abatements, the larger Sums they shall Receive, and be the sooner paid off. I am inclin'd to think if Moodille. & Barkatoolah, cou'd contrive to raise two Lack it wou'd end the business. Whatever of all this may be approved of by you Gentlemen, the Nabob must not delay sending his orders, Immediately to Barkatoolah, as you will be pleas'd to do, to your Renter, on what you may Agree, is proper to be done on this Occasion. I hope as far as I have acted will meet with your Approbation, and that in favor of the Intention, you will excuse the Liberty I have taken to offer my Sentiments.

I have answerd the Jemidars, that I have forwarded their Petition to my Honble Masters; But that all now depends upon their own behavior, what they are to expect, and if any Allowance is made them, they must look on it as a great favor, Since by their late Proceedings they have forfeited all Pretensions to what before they might have ask'd as their due from Justice.

I have also wrote to Usoff Cawn, advising him to stay where he is, And if the People of Madura cease from Hostilities he is likewise to do the same, and wait for orders & Directions how further to act.

I remain with great Respect
Honble Sir and Sirs
Your most Obedient &
most faithful Servant
JOHN CAILLAUD.

Trichenopoly
30th: Augst: 1756.

An Address of the Jemidars, Horse-men Hazareys, Seapoys &ca: in the Service of the Circar, to the Governors of Madras, and Fort St: David, as also to Major Kilpatrick Commander of the Army at Arcot, to Captain Caillaud Commander of the Army belonging to the Fort of Trichinopoly, and to all other Captains belonging to the English Company.

The Nabob (meaning Mahofoz Cawn) was indebted to us in a Sum of four Lacks of Rupas. to the time we were discharged from the Service, we demanded the same of him at the time of his Departure from Chevelpotoore, but Mahomed Usoof Cawn's People accommodated the matter and desired us not to demand it of him at that place telling us at the same time that on his arrival at Madura, means should be found for our Pay; on this, we were obliged to accompany him to the saide Place, and demanded our Pay of him at that place; but he intreated us to have patience for one Month and sent one Meer Tazedeenalley Cawn to Nubal Anaverdy Cawn upon this business, and also wrote a letter to the Governour. In part of the four Lack of Rupees he has paid thirty thousand by little and little at a time, it being the amount of Horses, Elephants, Camels, Women, Cloth, Jewels &ca, Goods sold. On this, we continued in this place depending upon his said Promise, Mahomed Usooph Cawn being acquainted with our Demands and Discourses, wrote a Letter to Mahofoz Cawn advising him that as there were three Subidars with Seapoys in the Fort, he would send two more Subidars with Seapoys; so that he shou'd turn us, who demanded our just due, out of the Fort; When we were apprized of this seeing that our just due would be ruined, we thought it necessary to press him again for our Pay, but the Company's Seapoys hindered us from it and resolved to fight, and wounded Cheer Cawn Baber's Nephew with a Musket Shot; Thó they acted so unjustly, yet out of a Regard to the Company none of us offered to molest them, but to save our lives from Fear we removed the said Seapoys from the Fort and sent them to Usoff Cawn at Tinnevelly keeping Mahofoz Cawn under our power. Mahomed Usooph Cawn is now arrived in

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[7th.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, SEPTEMBER 1756.*——

the plains of the Madura Country with resolution to deprive us of our just Right, and to do us injury and he is ready to fight us who are poor. We stand upon our Right but he is resolv'd to ruin it; Is this conformable to any Religon or Custom? We therefore demand Justice or beg Relief in this affair from all the English Sardars hoping that you'll do what is just and reasonable, and punish him.

N.B.—There are upwards of forty Seals to be seen in the Original.

Several other Letters upon the same subject as the two beforementioned from Captain Caillaud Read, Vizt. Two from the Nabob as entered in the Country Correspondence, No. 250, & 258; Three from Usoff Cawn the Nellour Subidar, Entd. No. 245, 246 & 255, and two from Teterapah Moodille the Tinnevelly Renter, Entd. No. 254 & 256. The Nabob strives to excuse his Brother Mahofoz Cawn's Proceedings at Madura, by alledging that the whole Disturbance is owing purely to the Excesses committed by the Seapoys, that his Brother would not have staid a Minute at Madura if the Seapoys would have suffered him to proceed; and that his coming away from Polumcotah which is a very strong Fort near to Tinnevelly where he has many friends, to Madura where he has none and where the Company's Seapoys were posted, is a proof that he can have no bad designs—Usoff Cawn and Moodille alledge on the other hand that Mahofoz Cawn not only consented to, & approved the turning out the Company's Seapoys from the Fort of Madura but also that he wrote to the Nattom and other Polygars lying between Trichenopoly and Madura to stop the Roads and not suffer Letters, Stores or Provisions to pass to the Company's Seapoys—That he ordered all the Polygars to join him with their Forces intending to oppose the Company's Seapoys—That he has given out that the Company have nothing to do with the Country and that it is granted to him by the Nabob—And that accordingly he appointed Meer Japhir to be Renter of the Tinnevelly District and Barkatoola Cawn (Killedar of Madura) to be Renter of the Nandamundelum District, which pretended Renters were endeavouring to prevent Tetarapa Modille from taking possession of the Country let to him by the Company, but Usoff Cawn seized Meer Japher and frustrated their Attempts.

The Circumstances of this disturbance is so differently represented in the several beforementioned Pieces that it is impossible to form a Decisive Judgment upon the Conduct of Mahofoz Cawn. Captain Caillaud by his last letter seems to think it is chiefly to be attributed to the Importunities of his Seapoys who might force him to take any Measures to raise Money for the Payment of the Arrears due to them, and the Representation of the Seapoys themselves entered above after Captain Caillaud's Letters confirms this Opinion by declaring that they detained Mahofoz Cawn at Madura.

In all cases the Removal of those Seapoys with Mahofoz Cawn and Barkatoola Cawn from Madura appears to the Committee to be the shortest and most certain Method of putting an end to the Disturbance. To attempt this by force would require a Body of Europeans to be sent and probably occasion a long and Expensive War at a time when there are already too many Calls for our Men; It would expose Mahofoz Cawn to publick Disgrace, perhaps without reason; It is besides just that his Seapoys should have some Satisfaction for the Arrears due to them; Therefore as Captain Caillaud mentions that he believes they may be brought to be contented with two Lacks of Rupees, altho' they demand almost four; it is Agreed to empower him to offer that Sum to be paid them on their Arrival at Tritchenopoly along with Mahofoz Cawn and Barkatoola Cawn and acknowledging it to be in full of the Arrears due to them.

In order to supply Captain Caillaud with the two Lack of Rupees required for this Service. It is Agreed to desire the Nabob to give Orders to the person whom he may appoint to be Renter of Madura in the room of Barkatoola Cawn to furnish at least one half, the other it is Resolved to write to Tetarapah Moodille to supply in advance upon the Tinnevelly Rents, to be stopped out of the Nabob's half.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, SEPTEMBER 1756.*—— [7th.]

The last year's Ballance due to Mahofoz Cawn from the Tinnevelly Country to be collected by Moodille and remitted to Captain Caillaud for the purpose beforementioned, and in case nothing is to be got from Madura, or only a part of the one Lack intended, then Moodille to furnish whatever Sum Captain Caillaud may apply to him for, to be stopped out of the Nabob's half of the Tinnevelly Rents as aforesaid.

And in case all the above Methods should fail or fall short then that Captain Caillaud have Liberty to draw upon us to make up the Sum of two Lacks.

To prevent the delay which would be occasioned by Captain Caillaud's waiting for further Orders should the Steps now resolv'd on be found impracticable or ineffectual it is Agreed to give him a discretional Power to pursue in that case such measures as to him shall appear most advisable for the putting a Speedy End to the present Disturbance.

Resolv'd to leave five hundred of the Company's Seapoys in Madura Fort to prevent future Disorders, but that they act under the Directions of the new Killedar to be appointed by the Nabob in the Room of Barkatoola Cawn, in all things consistent with the Company's Interest and the Good of the Country.

And Agreed that Usoff Cawn do march hither with the Rest as soon as the present Disorder shall subside and Tetarapa Moodille be enabled to carry on his Business quietly.

Ordered that Letters conformably to the foregoing Resolutions be immediately wrote to the Nabob, Captain Caillaud, Usoff Cawn and Tetarapa Moodille.

Letter from the Terpetty Renter Read, as entered No. 244 in the Book of Country Correspondence, inclosing a Bill on Gokul Terwaddy payable the 16th: Instant for Pagodas One thousand six hundred and forty four (1644) and Arcot Rups: Sixteen thousand six hundred and Sixty (16660) said to be in full for the June or third and last Kist of the year of Phasely 1165 which ends the 12th July 1756.

Ordered that Report be made to the President and Council of the Receipt of the said Bills that they may give Directions for demanding the money, and that the account of the said Kist be laid before us next Committee.

The President acquaints the Committee that the Cowles for the Countries mortgaged by the Nabob to the Company vizt. Changleput, Covelong, Manamungulum and 7 Maganums expiring the 31st: July last he has used his Endeavours to get the highest Price possible for the new Cowles, and at length has agreed for Changleput and Covelong with the former Renters on the following terms being the best that Offered Vizt: Changleput to Appazee Ninar for two years at twenty eight thousand five hundred (28500) Pagodas ℔ annum, being in the two Years an advance of two thousand five hundred (2500) Pagodas upon the former Rent.

Covelong to Pushepenada Ninar for one year for eight thousand (8000) Pagodas being the same as the former Rent.

But the Renters of Manamungulum and seven Maganums insisting on an Abatement from the former Rents he had not yet agreed for those Cowles.

GEORGE PIGOT.
ROBERT CLIVE.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.
ROBT. PALK.

Sent the following Letter to Captain Caillaud, pursuant to the Resolutions of the foregoing Committee.

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[8ᵗʰ] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, SEPTEMBER 1756.*——

To Captain John Caillaud.

Sir

[No. 39.] We have before us your Letters N°. 34 & N°. 35 dated 28ᵗʰ: & 30ᵗʰ: August, with the Copies of Mahofoz Cawn's and Barkatoola's Letters to you, and of your answers which meet with our entire approbation.

We observe also the Representation of the Jemidars &cᵃ. at Madura, and we have received likewise many Letters from the Nabob Usoff Cawn and Moodille on the Subject of this Disturbance, but in these different Pieces the Circumstances of the Affair in question are set in such different Lights that we find it impossible to decide whether it is to be looked on as a premeditated act of Rebellion on the part of Mahofoz Cawn or not. We are rather inclined to take that side which is most favorable to him, & to suppose that it is only a Tumult occasioned by the pressing Demands of an ungovernable Multitude of Seapoys made in so mutinous and threatening manner that Mahofoz Cawn might find it necessary to contrive some means of keeping them quiet for the present, and with a view perhaps of giving them better hopes of moneys coming in he might make a shew of receiving the Nabob's Phirmaund for the Country, and of appointing Renters over it.

But we do not see what reason Barkatoola had to embark himself in this affair. Instead of endeavouring to keep things quiet in the Fort committed to his care by the Nabob, he seems to have had a principal hand in the Riot and to have shewn himself a Man of a Seditious Disposition and very unfit for any Command.

It appears to us therefore that the Steps necessary to be taken for the putting and [*sic*] End to the present Disturbance and for settling the Tinnevelly Country in the quiet Management of the Company and their Renter; not only the Seapoys must be satisfied, but both Mahofoz Cawn and Barkatoola removed from the Fort of Madura.

To this end we Empower you to promise Payment of two Lacks of Rupees to the Seapoys immediately on their putting Usof Cawn in Possession of Madura, and coming themselves to Tritchenopoly along with Mahofoz Cawn and Barkatoola and giving an acknowledgement that it is in full of the Pay due to them.

This sum you must endeavour to raise in the manner proposed in your Letter of the 30ᵗʰ: from the Rents of Madura and Tinnevelly or from Tinnevelly only if Barkatoola should prevent your getting any from Madura; or in case both these Resources should fail, we give you Liberty to draw upon us for that Sum.

We have directed Moodillee to furnish you with what Money you may require; promising to deduct it out of his Rents. We have desired the Nabob to appoint another Governour over Madura, and to order him to Supply at least one lack towards the Discharge of the Arrears due from his Brother, and we have wrote to the Jemidars &cᵃ: at Madura in answer to their Representation, that we have empowered you to settle the means of satisfying them. The Letters for Moodillee and the Jemidars are enclosed for you to forward, and Copies of all three for your Perusal.

It is necessary that this Affair should be finished in the most Expeditious manner, otherwise fresh Arrears will be coming due before these are settled and the Disturbance may gather Strength so as to oblige us to be at the Expence of carrying on a War in those Countries. According to the Lights we at present have, the method abovementioned seems to us to promise the most ready Effect, but as you by your nearer Situation may be informed of fresh Circumstances and enabled to trace out a more easy and convenient Way, we leave it entirely to you to pursue such means as to you shall seem most speedy and efficacious for putting an End to the Present Disturbance and enabling Moodillee to carry on his Busyness quietly.

If after Mahofoz Cawn and his Seapoys have left Madura you shall find that the Fort of Trembour may be retaken from the Myana without much difficulty or a danger of creating new Disturbances, you may recommend it to Usoff Cawn whom we have directed in all cases to follow your advice. Our Letter to him is inclos'd for you to forward, and a Copy for your Perusal.

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——*FORT S^{T}· GEORGE, SEPTEMBER 1756.*—— [8^{BR}.]

After having satisfy'd the Seapoys for their Arrears you may let them go about their Busyness; and advise Mahofoz Cawn and Barkatoola to proceed for Arcot.

We could have Usoff Cawn come away as soon as the Situation of the Country will admit of it, leaving five hundred Seapoys under the Command of a trusty Subidar in Madura to act under the Direction of the new Governour whom the Nabob shall appoint and to be paid by him. In the meantime should he be in want of Money for the Payment of his Seapoys you must Supply him or answer his Bills.

We shall enable the Gentlemen at S^{t}· David to Supply you with the Ammunition you want. At length we have received the Nabob's order on the Killedar of Trichenopoly for the amount of your two last Estimates, and forward it under this Cover.

We are Sir

Fort S^{t}· George — Your most Obedient Servants
8th Sept^{r}· 1756. — GEORGE PIGOT &^{CA}· COMMITTEE.

P.S. In the same Letter to the Killedar, the Nabob orders him to sign the accounts jointly.

Inclosed in the Letter to Captain Caillaud sent the following answer to the Representation of the Jemidars &^{ca}: read in last Committee.

From the President to the Jemidars, Horsemen &^{ca} at Madura Sept^{r}· the 8th; 1756.

Captain Caillaud has transmitted to me the Representation under your Seals concerning the Arrears due to you from Mahofoz Cawn. If you had waited quietly for my answer to that Representation you might have been assured of a favourable Answer and you might have depended on the Company's known Justice. But to rise up in a tumultuous and mutinous manner, taking away the Arms of the Company's Seapoys and turning them out of the Fort is a Behaviour more like Enemies and Rebels than good Soldiers and Friends; and all of you that are acquainted with the duty of a Soldier know very well that the Justice due to such a Behaviour is Punishment, not Pay. Nevertheless in consideration of your former Services, and to give you a Mark of the Company's Indulgence, I have given Directions to Captain Caillaud concerning the Satisfaction of your Arrears; You are therefore quietly and without delay to act in such manner as Captain Caillaud shall advise you, and to look upon his Word and Promise in the same Light as my own— By such a Behaviour you will procure Relief and be made happy.

Received by Pattamar from Bombay a Letter from the Gentlemen of the Select Committee there dated 3^{d}: August.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

GEORGE PIGOT ESQ^{R}· GOVERNOUR PRESIDENT — THURSDAY THE 16TH:
ROBERT CLIVE ...
HENRY POWNEY — ROBERT ORME
WILLIAM PERCEVAL ...

COL^{N}· LAWRENCE & M^{R}· PALK *indisposed.*

Letter from the Select Committee at Bombay read as follows.

TO THE HOÑBLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQ^{R}· PRESIDENT AND GOVERNOUR &C^{A}: MEMBERS OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE AT FORT S^{T}: GEORGE.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

Since we did ourselves the Pleasure to write you under the 15th: June, we have been favoured with your advices of the 25th: May and 16th: June.

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[16TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, SEPTEMBER 1756.*——

You have been acquainted with our reasons for continuing in the possession of Gheria; and as the President a few days since received a Letter from the Nana to advise him of his Arrival at Ponna, we have hopes that we shall now be able to Settle Affairs with him, but as we must of course relinquish that place if the Nana complies with his Engagement in prohibiting the Dutch from carrying on any Commerce in his Dominions and yields up the Villages dependent on Fort Victoria we think it will be no Inducement to him to engage in the Secret Committee's Plan, and as we have the Satisfaction to observe from you that Salabat Jung had discharged the French we concur in the principal Part of the plan being effected by the Alliance between them being broke and hope that you will be able to make your own Terms with Salabat Jung, As we are concerned to acquaint you that in our present Situation we cannot comply with your Request for a Reinforcement of Men because we have no Certainty on what terms we are with the Nana having for near eight Months been very much deceiv'd by the Principal Officers under him. The War between England and France which by the last advices we have great reason to expect and on which account our Honble Masters have commanded us "to be strongly on our Guard" is another Serious Consideration which renders it absolutely necessary for us to detain all our Military here 'till the Arrival of our Ships or further Intelligence through your Channel which we impatiently wait for, having heard by a Ship which lately came from Patta that the Godolphin had been left considerably on this side Madagascar the latter end of May, and that all the Ships bound for your Coast and China sailed from England before her, as likewise the Experiment Man of War.

We beg leave to assure you that our best Endeavours shall be used to prevent the Nanna having any Friendship with the French, and to induce him to Co-operate with us in regard to the Committee's Scheme whenever Circumstances will admit; and in order to assist you as far as is in our power we have directed the Protector to be held in readiness to proceed to you (but fitted as a Merchant Ship for the reasons mentioned in our last) with a part of the Field Artillery and what Gunpowder we can spare.

We purpose to send John Spencer Esqr. to the Nana's Court at Ponna as soon as the Weather will permit, who will be provided with the small Cypher so that if you or the Agent you employ with Salabat Jung should have anything to transact with the Nana you will please to communicate it to M^r. Spencer by means of that Cypher and we think it will likewise be very necessary that you acquaint him with the Articles you have Stipulated with Salabad Jung, that M^r. Spencer may clear up any Distrust which may arise in the Nanna from this Event.

By a Vessel which we dispatched the 17th: ult^o: for Gombroon we fully represented to the Company the Advices received from you as well as our own Situation.

N.B. This was wrote in the Large Cypher.

We are Gent^n.
Your most Obedient Servants

Bombay Castle
3^d: Aug^t: 1756:

RICHARD BOURCHIER,, CHARLES CROMMELIN,,
JAMES FOULIS,, JOHN SPENCER,, SAMUEL HOUGH,,

The Select Committee at Bombay are already advised of the taking of Calcutta by the Moors, and of our Intention of joining Salabat Jung being set aside upon that News. Agreed to acquaint them by the next Pattamar with the Intelligence received since from Golcondah of the Peace concluded between Salabat Jung and the French.

Received the following Letter from Captain John Caillaud.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, SEPTEMBER 1756.*—— [16TH.]

To THE HOÑBLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQR: PRESIDENT AND GOVR: &CA GENTLEMEN: OF THE COMMITTEE AT MADRAS.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

No. 36.

In my last letters N°: 34, & 35 dated the 28th: & 30th: of August; I did not acknowledge the Receipt of your favour of the 6th: Ult°: N°. 36 since which I have also been honoured with two more N°. 37 & 38; dated the 23rd: and 25th: of the same Month.

I shall carefully observe your directions as to the Sale of the Grain, and the Reimplacement of it; and have last Month credited the Commissary in my Account, (as by order) for the money received from the Grain that is sold, and the tribute money which was due from the Polygar Elleyrampanah. I beg you will be pleased to inform me whether I am now to send in two Accounts monthly, one for the Hoñble Governour, the other for the Commissary; And which of those Accounts, or whether both of them, are to be signed by the Killedour, who on offering my Accounts this Month to be signed informed me he Would not do it without the Nabob's Orders which he has not yet got, nor for the payment of the Estimates.

I have supplied Usoof Cawn with flints and amunition as to eighteen Pounder Shot, the Gun is in Madura, so it will be time enough to supply it.

I now come to your favours N°. 37 and 38. The Directions you are pleased to honour me with concerning the disposition of the troops to be left in the Tinnevelly Country, cannot yet as you are sensible, be complied with; tho' I hope it will not be long before order and tranquility is established in the Country. With Relation to the Situation of affairs thereabouts, I have the honour to refer you to my last letter No. 35: Having heard nothing since which has in the least altered from what I informed you then, and the Steps I had taken the liberty to pursue. A Letter indeed from Usoof Cawn inclosing the Copy of an Order which he had received from the Nabob, to recall the Seapoys out of Madura, which I now send. I will beg leave to offer to your consideration, that however this affair is made up, that Article of leaving some of our Seapoys in Madura I believe had best be insisted on, to secure the Quiet Possession of the Tinnevelly Country.

I have inserted in my General Account all the Batta for the Military, which formerly I was used to give in to Mr. Wynch as Contractor; who on his Appointment for Fort St: David informed me that must be my method.

A Deserter of ours returned from the Tanjour Service, named Wright, I beg to know your orders about him.

Inclos'd I have the honour to transmit the Monthly Accounts and Returns of the Garrison for August.

I remain with great Respect
Hoñble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedt: & faithfull Servant
JOHN CAILLAUD.

Trichenopoly
3d: Septr: 1756.

Agreed that the Deserter returned from Tanjour be entertain'd and put upon the Rolls. Concerning the Disturbance at Madura full Orders were given last Committee.

The President acquaints the Committee that the Nabob's Vakeel has represented to him by the Nabob's Order that Murtazally Cawn of Velour is extreamly pressing for an answer concerning the Articles of Agreement proposed between the Nabob and him, and desires in case the Conclusion of the said Agreement is to be defer'd any longer, that the Villages dependent on Velour, now under the Nabob's Seizure be previously restored to him; the Nabob therefore desires that we will either accept or refuse the said Articles without further Delay; and in case of Refusal that we will

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[16ᵗʰ] ——*FORT ST GEORGE, SEPTEMBER 1756.*——

order Captain Maskelyne, Commander of Arcot to take Charge of the Villages which remain under Seizure for that he (the Nabob) is unable to maintain them as their Revenue is not sufficient to pay the Troops they require for their Defence.

Copy of the Agreements demanded by Murtazally Cawn were transmitted with the Nabob's Letter, Enter'd in the Country Correspondence N°. 219, Read in Committee 21st: Ultimo, and order'd to lye on the table for further Consideration.

The said Letter and Articles now again Read. The five Articles required by Murtazally Cawn to be signed by the Nabob, and the Letter of Confirmation to be signed by us, are as follow.

The five Articles demanded by Murtazally Cawn to be granted him by the Nabob.

1st. I shall by no means Molest or Dispossess you from the Forts and Jageers which you and your Brothers, as also the Mensebdars and People belonging to you had in the time of the Deceas'd Nabob, nor from those which may be given at present. The People belonging to me shall observe the same.

2d. The Usual Taxes of Money, the Phousdary &cª are forgiven you, and shall not be demanded either for the time past, or to come.

3d. The Fort of Chittour belongs to you, and shall be deliver'd to you with the Jageer of Masharoot and Ahasham after the French War and the Troubles of the Country are over.

4th. Should any one Molest you, I shall by the Blessing of God assist you in every Respect; Believe me to be your Ally.

5th. Agreeable to your Request I confer'd the Naybet (or the Deputy Government) of Veloor Fort &cª Districts belonging to you on Ally Dost Cawn Behauder; as he is your son, he shall remain confirmed in the Possession of your District together with the Forts and Jageers; and with this same Promise and Agreement.

Letter of Confirmation demanded by Murtazally Cawn, to be signed by the Governour and Council.

We the English Gentlemen of the Council of Madras do give this Agreement to Nabob Gulam Murtaza Cawn Behauder.

Whereas Serauge il dowla Omdut il Mulk Nabob Anaverdy Cawn Behauder Delaver Jung has given an Agreement in writing, consisting of five Articles to the said Gulam Murtaza Cawn; We likewise promise and engage to act according to the said Articles; and further, to take care that the said Nabob Anaverdy Cawn shall not in any manner deviate from the Said Agreement either towards the said Gulam Murtaza Cawn, his Brother, or the People belonging to him. Should any one Molest the said Gulam Murtaza Cawn, or disturb his District, We the Governour and Council shall esteem him as an Enemy, and join the Said Gulam Murtaza Cawn and assist him in every Respect.

In consideration of the Indulgences mentioned in the beforegoing Pieces Murtazally Cawn agrees to deliver to the Nabob.

	Pagodas.	Rupees.
A Bill on the Soucars for	...	100,000
An Order on Seataram, Renter of Maurpella belonging to the Circar of Cammam	20,000	...
An Order on Rangopettyrauze, Renter of Adange, Jamcootey and Amnool, belonging to the Circar of Cammam	44,660 3/16	...
An Order on the Killedars, dependent on Veloor for a Ballance of Tribute due from them to Murtazally Cawn	...	25,000
In all Pagª	64,660 3/16	& Rs. 125,000.

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——*FORT S^T GEORGE, SEPTEMBER 1756.*—— [16TH]

Pagodas sixty four thousand, six hundred and sixty, and Rupees one hundred and twenty five thousand conformably to what was mentioned in Committee the 29th: June last. But according to the best Enquiries that can be made, only one hundred thousand Rupees (the amount of the Bills on the Sóucars) would be received, Cammam being a District on the Borders of Cudapa, and very probably no Ballances due from the Renters or if there is that they will be privately directed to refuse Payment of these Orders.

Consideration therefore being had on the Articles demanded, and the Offers made by Murtazally Cawn, the Commitee are of Opinion that some Alterations must be insisted on, as follow.

In the 2^d: Article the Words "not to be demanded for the time to come." should be left out, as it is not proper for the Nabob to Lessen the Usual Revenues of the Province by remitting the Phousdar's fees, neither he nor we can pretend to answer for such an Agreement being observed by a Succeeding Nabob, nor indeed can the least reason be given in favour of Murtazally why he should be exempted from future taxes, the Sum he is now to pay, supposing it the full Lack of Pagodas, not being more than is due from him for the time past. Besides as the Money Payments are now stated, only one Lack of Rupees are likely to be collected although he appears to give near one Lack of Pagodas, which is the Sum we have all along, and do still insist on.

Murtazally Cawn must therefore be required to give good Security for the doubtful Sums.

In which case it is Agreed to accept the Articles (with the Alteration beforementioned in the 2^d:) provided he on his part also give a Writing under his hand and Seal, acknowledging the Nabob's Rights, promising to assist him in case the Troubles should recommence, and to pay him the usual Tribute.

Without these acknowledgements and Concessions on the part of Murtazally Cawn it is Resolved not to accede to any Agreement with him, but if it is inconvenient and expensive to keep Possession of the Villages under Seizure the Committee think the Nabob may give them up with a Shewof Friendship; for if we refuse the Agreement it is not with design to proceed to Hostilities against Murtazally at this time, but to avoid giving him without a valuable Consideration, Indulgences which by the whole Course of his Behaviour he has no Right to expect; as it would restrain us from demanding when a good opportunity shall offer, a full Satisfaction not only for all the Tribute due from him, but for the Expences of our Troops before Veloor in February last.

Letter from Salabat Jung dated 13th: Aug^st Read as Ent^d in the Country Correspondence N^o: 261, expressing his Surprize that our Troops had not march'd to join him, and desiring they may be dispatch'd as soon as possible, hinting that otherwise they will be of no Service. Although by later Advices from Golconda we have undoubted Intelligence of a Peace concluded between Salabat Jung and the French, yet it is Agreed to endeavour to keep up a friendly Correspondence with him, and in answer to his Letter now before us to repeat to him that the Injuries done us by the Nabob of Bengal obliged us to defer sending our Troops to join him, as we must in the first place endeavour to obtain a just Satisfaction for those Injuries. Agreed also to enter into a further Detail of the Bengall Affair in order to shew Salabat Jung how small a force we had there, depending on the Mogul's Phirmaund, and how cruelly the Nabob treated the Merchants that fell into his hands.

Letter from the Nana Balazarow as Ent^d No. 262 Read in which he says in answer to the *Offer made him of Troops in consequence of his Request in March last, that they were intended for the Reduction of the Disturbances at Savanore, but as that Affair was finished soon after according to his Wishes he had no occasion to send for the Troops; He desires however that they may be kept in Readiness to join

* Private Committee 15th March.

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[16TH] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, SEPTEMBER 1756*——

him, as he intends to march to these parts after the Monsoon. Agreed to write to Balazarow that we shall always be glad to assist in his Affairs. Agreed also to acquaint him more particularly with the Proceedings of the Nabob of Bengal.

The Gomasta of the Terpetty Renter lays before the Committee the account of the June Kist being the third and last of the year of Phasely 1165 ending July 1756. The account being examined, is found Right; Ballance due from the Renter Rupees two hundred and sixty one, seven Sixteenths ($261\frac{7}{16}$) and Pagodas two hundred and thirty five, four fanams and sixty five Cash (235 : 4 : 65) for which sum the Vakeel now delivers a Bill on Gocul Terwaddy payable the 21st : Instant.

Ordered that Report be made to the President and Council of the Receipt of the said Bill that they may give Directions for demanding the Money.

Ordered also that a Letter be wrote to the Terpetty Renter acknowledging the Receipt in full of the Amount of the June Kist, and requiring him to be punctual in remitting the Produce of the September or first Kist of the present year of Phasely 1166.

GEORGE PIGOT.
ROBERT CLIVE.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.
ROBT. PALK.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

GEORGE PIGOT ESQR :	GOVERNOUR PRESIDENT
ROBERT CLIVE	STRINGER LAWRENCE
HENRY POWNEY	ROBERT ORME
WILLIAM PERCEVAL	ROBERT PALK.

WEDNESDAY THE 22D :

Letter from Roger Drake Esqr : Peter Godfrey Esqr : Jones Raymond Esqr ; John Payne Esqr ; & Christopher Burrow Esqr : the Secret Committee of the East India Company, dated the 13th : February 1756 and received ℔ Ships Walpole and Chesterfield, Read

By the 3d : Paragraph it is observed that this Committee are invested with the Power of "transacting Affairs, and taking such Measures as shall best conduce to "the Protection and Preservation of the Company's Estate, Rights and Priviledges, "and to correspond and act in concert with the Select Committees at Bengall and at "Bombay, for the General and Particular Protection of the Companys Trade, Possessions and Rights wherever and whenever they may be in danger;" The Powers of the Committee never having been before so fully explained it was imagined that they extended only to Negotiations with the Princes of the Country and Foreign European Nations; and to the Operations of the Troops in the Field; For this reason the Conduct of the Intended Expedition to Bengal has unto this time been had under the Deliberation of the whole Council, but it now appears beyond doubt that it ought to have fallen under the Management of this Committee and that the future Direction of it should be refered hither.

Ordered that the Paragraph beforemention'd of the Secret Committee's Letter be laid before the President and Council together with the above Opinion.

The Council having accordingly met, came to the following Resolution,

"That the Transactions for Re-establishing the Company in their Rights and "Priviledges at Bengal do properly fall under the Direction of the Select Committee "by Virtue of the foregoing Paragraph, That it be therefore referr'd to the said "Committee to do therein as they shall think proper, and that they be fully informed "of the Steps that have already been taken."

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, SEPTEMBER 1756.*—— [22D.]

The President then acquaints the Committee that the Last Determination of the Council concerning this Expedition was that the whole Squadron should proceed with Six hundred Men Rank and File, and the Detachment of his Majesty's Artillery under the Command of Captain Hislop with the Guns &c^a thereunto belonging, the whole commanded by Colonel Clive, under the General Direction of Commissaries appointed with full Powers for the Conduct of the Treaties to be made with the Nabob of Bengal, or of the Operations of the Forces against him, which Commissaries so appointed were Colonel Clive, [*Lacuna in the original*].

And that a Letter conformably to the said Resolutions was wrote to Colonel Adlercron but no answer yet received.

Agreed that the Consideration of the other parts of the Secret Committee's Letter be defered to another opportunity.

GEORGE PIGOT.
ROBERT CLIVE.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.
ROBT. PALK.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

GEORGE PIGOT ESQR	GOVERNOUR PRESIDENT	THURSDAY 23D: SEPTR:
ROBERT CLIVE	STRINGER LAWRENCE	
HENRY POWNEY	ROBERT ORME	
WILLIAM PERCEVAL	ROBERT PALK.	

Receiv'd this Instant the following Letter from Colonel Adlercron.

To GEORGE PIGOT ESQR: PRESIDENT & GOVR:
&CA COUNCIL OF FORT ST GEORGE.

Gentlemen

I shall with great pleasure order whatever number of his Majesty's Troops you shall be pleas'd to demand to be joined to yours on the Intended Expedition; but as I cannot answer to the King my Master, nor to my own Character, to remain cooped up in a Garrison in a state of inaction; while any part of the Forces under my Command are upon actual Service, I think it my duty to go along with them: and should I be of a contrary Opinion my Lieutenant Colonel would have just cause of Complaint against me, were I not to make him the first offer.

The Detachment of his Majesty's Artillery is particularly alotted to attend my Regiment, and I cannot consent to their being employed any where but with a part thereof; unless therefore we are to have the honour of assisting in this Expedition, I do hereby in the name of the King my Master, demand that his Majesty's Artillery, with all the Stores thereunto belonging, be immediately disembarked.

I am sorry Gentlemen, to be obliged to observe, that I think it very extraordinary that after writing to me two Letters requesting me to undertake this Service with the whole of his Majesty's Troops, and pressing me to give the necessary orders accordingly, you should now be for putting me off upon such slight Pretences.

I am Gentn:
Your most Obedt humble
Servant
JOHN ADLERCRON.

Fort St: George
23d: Septr: 1756.

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[28RD.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, SEPTEMBER 1756.*——

Colonel Adlercron's Avowal in his Letter of the 20th: Instant, that he could not engage to return hither upon our Request, nor that the Company should have any part of the Plunder that may be taken towards the Reimbursement of the Immense Loss they have sustained; appear to us to be Reasons of the greatest Importance against his going on the Command; and we flatter ourselves his Majesty will not be of Opinion with Coln: Adlercron, that they Slight Pretences, or that it will reflect Dishonour on Colonel Adlercron to stay for the Defence of a Colony of so much Consequence as Madras, where besides by much the largest Force will remain, and above two thirds of his own Regiment.

The Committee are entirely of Opinion that it is necessary for the Good of the Company that the Command should be vested in an Officer of the Companys, subject to our Orders; and do therefore abide by the Resolution of the Council that Colonel Clive proceed in that Quality; But as it will cause some Delay to land his Majesty's Train of Artillery which is already embarked, it is Agreed to write again to Colonel Adlercron to represent to him the bad Consequences of such delay. Resolving nevertheless that it be disembarked if he continues to insist on it; but to protest against him for all the Damage which may be caused to the Company by such Delay.

Ordered that ten Brass six Pounder field Pieces belonging to the Company be prepared to be embarked in the place of his Majesty's, if Colonel Adlercron persists in requiring them to be landed. Two of those belonging to the Company being at Fort St. David, a Letter is now dispatched to Mr: Wynch, directing them to be sent hither by the Return of his Majestys Ship Bridgwater.

Letter to Colonel Adlercron conformable to the above Minutes is now drafted and approved, and Ordered to be immediately sent to him.

GEORGE PIGOT.
ROBERT CLIVE.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.
ROBT. PALK.

Pursuant to the foregoing Resolutions, sent the following Letter to Colonel Adlercron.

To JOHN ADLERCRON Esqr: COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF THE LAND FORCES IN INDIA.

Sir

We have received the favour of your Letter dated 23d which we imagine to be intended as an answer to that which we did ourselves the honour to address to you Yesterday, although you are not pleased to favour us with an Express Acknowledgement of the Receipt of that Letter.

Permit us Sir, to tell you that we think it can be no Derogation to your Character, nor that it will give Offence to his Majesty to hear that you are requested to remain with us in the Command of the greatest Body of English Troops in India, for the defence of a Town of such vast Importance to the English Nation, as Madras. Threaten'd with an impending War with France, the Experience of the last teaches us with what Eyes our Enemies will regard us; they will have nothing certainly so much at heart as a Second Reduction of this Place, as by that Success every obstacle to the vast designs of the French Nation in India, will be removed without a Possibility of our presenting future Opposition to their Views. We Leave to the Judgment of those to whom the Letter we did ourselves the honour to write you yesterday, may be referr'd, to determine whether we are liable to the Imputation of "putting you off upon slight pretences" from undertaking in your own Person the Service of the Present Expedition.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, SEPTEMBER 1756.*—— [23RD.]

Thus far we thought due to you and to ourselves. We have considered your demand in his Majesty's name immediately to land his Majesty's Artillery if the Expedition is conducted by an Officer of the Company. Consider, Sir, we have represented to you that we made this Request upon a Conviction of the necessity of the Affairs of the East India Company, and at a time when these Affairs were never so much immersed in Scenes of difficulty and Misfortune. The Lateness of the Arrival of the Latter Ships from Europe, which Arrival we formerly told you was absolutely necessary to form our final Resolutions, has encroached so much upon the Season of Dispatch, that every hour becomes of the last Importance. But the Reverence due to his Majesty's name shall ever supersede with us all other Considerations. If you persist to demand it, his Majesty's Artillery shall be immediately landed. But you must permit us in behalf of the East India Company, as their Representatives, to protest against and to make you responsible for all the bad Consequences and ill Success which may attend this Expedition to Bengall, and which may arise from a Want of Capt. Hislop, his Officers and Men and the Train of Artillery we have demanded of you, and you shall be pleased to refuse.

We have already done ourselves the honour to acquaint you that it will be a particular satisfaction to have a part of his Majesty's Troops and Officers joined to those of the Company on the present Expedition, which we again repeat, provided you shall think proper to put those Officers and Troops under the Command of Lieutenant Colonel Clive. But for the reasons mentioned in our Letter to you of yesterday's date, and for others which we need not trouble you with, but which we shall give to our Masters, it is absolutely necessary that this Expedition be put under the Command of that Gentleman; as it is also absolutely necessary that the Commander do act in Behalf of the Company both in a Civil and a Military Capacity.

We are Sir
Your most Obedient humble
Servants
GEORGE PIGOT &CA. COMMITTEE.

Fort St. George
23d. Septr. 1756.

In the Evening receiv'd the following Letter from Colo. Adlercron in answer to that wrote him in the Morning.

To GEORGE PIGOT Esqr. PRESIDENT & Govr.
&CA GENTLEMEN OF THE SECRET COMMITTEE.

Gentlemen

I have before me your favour of this day's date, to which I reply, that I can be no ways responsible for any of the bad Consequences or ill Success that may attend the Expedition, as I have offered you my Services with the whole or any part of his Majesty's Forces under my Command; the which if you don't chuse to accept, Yourselves only must be answerable for the Event.

The dangerous situation in which you represent things to be in here, rather confirms me in my resolution not to part with his Majesty's Train; but I have already given a full answer in the Letter I wrote this morning to the General Council, to which I beg leave to refer you, as you have offered nothing which can induce me to alter my Sentiments. Surely, Gentlemen, you are not so unreasonable as to expect that I will send away any part of his Majesty's Train, or Regiment (who are so immediately under my direction) and leave to you the Nomination of the Person who shall command them.

I am Gentn.
Your most Obedient humble
Servant
JOHN ADLERCRON.

Fort St. George
23d. Septr. 1756.

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FRIDAY THE 24TH.

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, SEPTEMBER 1756.*——

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

GEORGE PIGOT ESQR: GOVERNOUR PRESIDENT
ROBERT CLIVE: STRINGER LAWRENCE
HENRY POWNEY: ROBERT ORME.
WILLIAM PERCEVAL: ROBERT PALK.

The foregoing Letter from Colonel Adlercron dated the 23d. Instant Read, and after due Consideration had, the Committee Resolve to land the King's Train of Artillery with the utmost Expedition and to take no further notice of Coln. Adlercron's Refusal having already protested against him for all the bad Consequences it may occasion. The Train Appurtenances, Stores and Ammunition which were embarked along with the King's Artillery, belonging partly to the King and partly to the Company, cannot be landed and separated without much delay, It is therefore Agreed to request of Colonel Adlercron to spare them for the Service of the Present Expedition upon our promise to replace the same Quantities immediately for the use of his Majesty's Train.

The following Letter is accordingly wrote and signed and sent to Colonel Adlercron.

To JOHN ADLERCRON ESQR. COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF
OF THE LAND FORCES IN INDIA.

Sir

We have received the favour of your Letter of yesterday's date.

We are now ordering his Majesty's Train of Artillery to be brought ashore from the Marlbro', but as the Ammunition and Stores are likewise sent on board that ship for the Service of the Artillery consists of Supplies issued from our Stores which are in the Package blended with those belonging to his Majesty and as the unloading and separating these will be a work of time, and occasion delay, which it is of the last Importance to avoid, as every day now lost greatly protract the Passage of the Ships to Bengall. We take the Liberty to request of you that you will permit all the Stores and Ammunition designed for the Service of his Majesty's Artillery and already ship'd; may remain on board the Marlbro' for the Service of the present Expedition and we do assure you, Sir, that we will immediately replace to you an equal Quantity of Stores and Ammunition. We hope the favour of your Compliance with this Request, and beg that of your immediate answer to this Address.

We have the honour to be
Sir
Your most Obedt. & most humble
Servts.
GEORGE PIGOT &ca. COMMITTEE.

Fort St. George
24th. Septr. 1756.

Letter from Mr. Charles Frederick Noble Read, as follows.

To THE HOÑBLE THE GOVERNOUR, AND SECRET
COMMITTEE OF WAR AT FORT ST GEORGE.

Gentlemen

Ever since my Arrival here a few days ago, when I heard of the Melancholy news of the Loss of all the Company's Settlements in Bengall, I have been endeavouring to recollect and commit to writing whatever Information I obtained while I resided there, under my late worthy friend and Patron Colonel Scott, of the people,

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, SEPTEMBER 1756.*—— [24m]

Government, Military Strength &c^{a}. of that Kingdom, that I think can be of Service to the Company's Affairs, and in the Expedition that I hear by common Report is intended thither for recovering these Settlements. As a faithfull Servant I wish I may be the least Instrumental to effecting so important and interesting a design.

And I am the more induced to trouble you upon this subject at present as the few Gentlemen that are left alive in these Settlements cannot in their present situation give you any full Accounts of what may be necessary and useful for you to know on these Subjects, and as what I have to communicate are the observations and sentiments of my late worthy Patron, whose judgement of affairs can never be regarded with indifference, by any one who were acquainted with his Abilities.

When he came out in the Company's Service, the Court of Directors being sensible of the great importance of the Trade of Bengal above all their other Settlements in India, recommended Fort William and it's dependencies, to his particular Care; and in their private Instructions empowered him to treat with the Nabob, in conjunction with M^{r}. Drake and M^{r}. Watts the two Governours to whom he had a secret order from the Company to furnish him what money he might have occasion for in such services, in procuring the Nabob's leave to fortify in case of opposition, and paving the way at the Court of Moxudavad for a good understanding between the Company and him.

The Colonel was at great pains to procure a perfect knowledge of that Court, Government, Country and People and I believe few men knew it better than he did at his death.

As the Colonel was soon known to several of the greatest men of that Country by means of Omy Chund (an eminent Merchant at Calcutta, and the best acquainted with the Company's affairs and interest; of any one in that Country) he had several conferences with them particularly with Rajah Tilluchund of the Burduwan Country, and Cozee Waszit of Hugely who had mentioned his Arrival to the Nabob.

The old Nabob Alliverdy Cawn then greatly advanc'd in years (between 70 & 80) signified a great desire to see and confer with him as he understood him to be one of the King's Officers, and an Experienced Soldier, a Character he always respected as being one of the greatest of his time in that Country himself, & accordingly invited the Colonel to his Court: And Cozee Salle' the Nabob's Ambassador at the Sowah Rajah's Court at Sittara, after having concluded a Peace between the Nabob and Morattoes, being then at Calcutta on his Return to Moxudavad, the Nabob ordered him to see the Colonel, and repeat his desire of seeing him, which he did in a Meeting and Conference in February 1754, at Omy Chund's Country Garden there.

This Gentleman Cozee Salle' was (on his arrival at Moxudavad for his Service) appointed Nabob or Governour of the Cuttack Province.

Colonel Scott was prepared and ready to go to Moxudavad (where the Nabob expected him.) When he received the then Governour and Council's letter of Madras intreating him to come with all speed to their assistance upon the Choromandel Coast. On this, he excused himself to the Nabob in the politest manner in a letter he wrote to Cozee Wasgitand Cozee Salle', and came to this place, where he afterwards died. The Loss the Company have sustain'd thereby, is but too Evident.

It was thought that the Nabob had some affairs of Consequence to communicate to the Colonel with regard to the Sucession of Nabobship after his death and to the Company's affairs; And it was also hinted to the Colonel that the Nabob wanted his advice about fortifying Moxudavad, and the Pass at Siccullygully which you will find often mentioned in the Projects that I now have the honour of presenting you with.

Colonel Scott understood that on the death of the old Nabob, there would be a dispute for the Crown between the Gentlemen, his Nephews and his Grandsons, who had already discovered ambitious Views.

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[24th] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, SEPTEMBER 1756.*——

He acquainted the Company therewith in one of his Letters, and of his apprehensions of the danger all their Settlements would be in of being Pillaged by one or other of the Competitors; and of the weak and defenceless condition in which he found all their Forts and Garrisons.

He endeavoured to introduce Regular Order and Discipline among the Troops, that had been much before neglected; and to rectify many abuses and irregularities that were daily committed to the Prejudice of the Company's Interest, and of the Nation's honour. Some things he effected, but he had too much power and self Interest to contend with, to be able to make any Material Alterations in the Government of these Settlements.

The Military works and fortifications he intended and was Empowered to erect in Calcutta, could not be compleated in many Years, therefore he thought of making some slighter Works for the more immediate defence of the place, against the Blow he saw impending; and which we have now unfortunately received; a Plan of which he presented to the Governour and Council, and which was approv'd and set about directly.

He ordered the Ditch that he found had already been carried on half round the Town, to be widened and deepened and to be carried on quite round; Drawbridges and Redoubts to defend them, to be erected at 3 or 4 places; And two larger Redoubts to be erected, one at each extremity of the Town by the River side, not only to command the River, but to defend the Drawbridges there, and the Sluices for filling and emptying the ditch; with many other Works for the Preservation of the Town in case of a sudden attack before the more Regular Works could be accomplished. But his departure from Bengall a little thereafter hindered their Progress, tho' he left M^r^. Wells Engineer to carry them on in his Absence according to particular directions left with him for that purpose; and his death put a stop to them.

Having now given a short account of the Colonel's Transactions, and the Observations he made relating to the Country Government and the Company's Affairs there, (which I have not now time enough to do so fully or so regularly as I could wish to do) I shall now Communicate to you some very Important Schemes and Projects, the relation of several military Operations and remarks on our Military Strength in these Countries, that were communicated to him by some of the most Experienced and Discerning men of that Country, both Natives and others; And which I have been careful in preserving, together with some hundred Pages of others, that I have not time at present to present you with.

I think they may of service to us in our present Exigencies, tho' they were designed for happier times; And are as follow

1st. A Project for conquering the Kingdom of Bengall.

2^d^. A Critical relation of some of our Military Operations against the Nabob or Country Forces in Bengall, and Observations on the use of a Train of Artillery in that Country.

3^d^. Proposals for forming a Militia Force in Bengal.

4th. A List of the great Lords and Gentlemen of the Court of Muxadavad; Nabobs, Rajahs &c^a^.

5th. The names of the several Villages, Towns, Buzzars, Creeks &c^a^. on both Sides the River Hughly from Calcutta, to the City of Muxadavad.

6th. The Rout from Calcutta to the Imperial City of Delli by Land, the distances from place to place, and days Journies.

I have a Plan of the Kingdom of Bengall, which tho' far from being Correct yet is the best I have yet been able to procure; and which as it may also be of Service in the Expedition, so I shall endeavour to present you with a Copy of it; but as I am a little fatigued with having Sit up both day and nights in preparing what I now send you, I am afraid I shall not be able to have that or anything Else

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——*FORT S^T GEORGE, SEPTEMBER 1756.*—— [24TH]

I could wish to communicate for the good of the Service, before the departure of the Troops, without some assistance; therefore if you think it worthy your while to have them, you will be pleased to order me such assistance.

By what Colonel Scott observed in Bengall, the Gentou Rajahs and Inhabitants were very much disaffected to the Moor Government, and secretly wished for a Change and Opportunity of throwing off their Tyranuical Yoke, And was of opinion that if an European force began Successfully that they would be inclined to join them; if properly applied to and encouraged; but might be cautious how they acted at first, 'till they had a probability of Success in bringing about a Revolution to their Advantage.

I look on old Omy Chund as the man in Bengall the most capable of serving us if he has a mind to it; tho' considering the ill usage he has often received from the Gentlemen of our Nation there (who have generally sacrificed the Company's Welfare and Nation's honour and Glory, to their private Piques and interest) we can scarce hope for his favour without the hopes of retrieving what he may have lost by this unhappy Event, and being better used in future, may prevail with him. Whether he had any hand in the present affair or not I cannot say; He was intimate with the Nabob and all the Court.

There is a Man named Nimoo Gosseyng the high Priest of the Gentous, who has a great influence among the Gentou Rajahs, and with a particular Cast of people who go up and down the Kingdom well armed in great bodies, of the Facquir or Religious Beggar Cast, who might possibly be of Service to us, if he could be engaged to our Interest, which by Nimoo Gosseyng's means I have particular Reasons to believe might be done.

This Priest gave Colonel Scott very good Information of many things relating to the affairs of that Country; and told him he could bring a thousand of these men to assist the English in four days warning when needfull. The Colonel did him some service while he lived, and I dare say he has a Respect for his Memory to this day.

As I think we cannot have too much good information and advice, relating to the affairs of Bengall, and the means of repairing the great Loss the Company and Private Gentlemen have sustained; so I shall take the Liberty of mentioning Old M^r. Cooke (formerly in the Company's Service at Bengall) Father to the Company's Secretary there now residing near this place I am told) as a Man of great Experience and Judgement in what relates to Bengall, for whom the Colonel in his life time had a great respect on that account; and who might be able to give some Lights to things that may not be so well known here, especially as M^r. Manningham is not arrived, and may perhaps be longer detained.

I hope Gentlemen, you'll excuse my freedom and think favourably of what I here communicate to you for the Company's Service, which I submit to your Superior Judgment and Consideration; and which a regard for the Company's Wellfare (In whose Service I now am appointed) and the honour and glory of our Nation has prompted me to.

In this I but endeavour to copy the great example of Honesty and Fidelity set me by my late Worthy Friend and Patron Colonel Scott, whose Memory will ever be respected by every honest King's Subject or Company's Servant; and whose friendship and confidence will ever do me honour.

In hopes of your approbation and encouragement in the publick Service, I shall continue to promote it as much as my Abilities will allow me. Meantime I most heartily wish all Possible Success to the Intended Expedition from hence to Bengall, and remain with respect

Gent^n

Your most Obedient humble Servant

CHA^s. F. NOBLE.

Fort St George
22^d Septr. 1756.

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[24TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, SEPTEMBER 1756.*——

Ordered that the Papers accompanying Mr. Noble's above Letter be sent round for the Perusal of the Several Gentlemen of the Committee; and that the Secretary thank Mr. Noble for his Information, taking notice at the same time that they would have been equally useful and much more agreeable, had he spared the Unbecoming Reflections on the Characters of the Bengall Gentlemen too frequently to be remarked in his foregoing Letter.

Letter from the Nabob as Entd. No. 276 in the Country Correspondence Read, advising that he also has also sent Orders to Mahofoz Cawn and Barkatoola Cawn to come away from Madura, the which, and our Orders to Captain Caillaud for satisfying the Seapoys, will he hopes put an End to the Disturbance. Desiring that we will collect with care the Ballance due from the Country to Mahofoz Cawn which ought to be sufficient to discharge the Arrears; but if it should be necessary to advance anything more, he thinks it should be done half by the Company and only half to be deducted out of his share of the Tinnevelly Revenues—Desiring also that he [we ?] will take the Management of the Fort & district of Madura and pay him half of the Revenues that may remain after defraying the Expences and inclosing an Information of Incursions committed by Meer Saib of Ellavanasore upon the Districts of Tootgoody and Wodiarpollam.

Agreed that the Madura Country be let out upon the best terms that can be got, and that Captain Caillaud, Usoff Cawn, and Teterapa Moodille be directed to make Enquiry and transmit us such Proposals as may be delivered to them with their Opinion of the Person who shall make the Offer. That the Nabob be desired to order Mahofoz Cawn's Writer to deliver the accots. of the Outstanding Ballances to Teterapa Moodillee and to assist him in collecting the Money.—That a Copy of those accounts be also transmitted to Captain Caillaud and the Money that may be so collected, applied towards the Discharge of the Arrears. And that Teterapa Moodillee be again directed to supply Capt. Caillaud with what further sum may be wanted to satisfy the Seapoys for their Arrears, which Sum shall be allowed him out of the present year's Rents, But it is Resolved that the whole of such advance be deducted out of the Nabob's Share of those Rents, as it is more reasonable that he should find money for his Brother's debts than the Company, who have besides unto this time received nothing from Tinnevelly to Reimburse the Charges of recovering that Country out of the hands of the Rebels.

With regard to the Irregularities of Meersaib it is Agreed to admonish him by a Letter of friendship to desist from such Proceedings and behave quietly. As it would be very inconvenient, nay impossible for us at this time to send Troops to reduce him, it is thought most advisable to endeavour to make him a Friend.

Letter dated 3d. Septr. from the Governor and Council of Tranquebar Read, as follows.

Translated from German.

To the Honble Governour and
Council at Fort St. George.

Honble Sir &c.

By your Honour's Letter of the 29th of the past Month it seemeth almost you had the Opinion concerning us, as if Perumal Naiker's not paying the money which he hath borrowed from us, & which we have lent to him upon the Village Anandamungulum, hath been the reason of what we have acted, But we assure you that this not hath been our Scope and Intention in it. But having Perumal Naiguer for a long while almost 1½ Years since, made not only many Displeasures to us, but done us also great Mischief by stealing, plundering and robbing upon the Company's Bounds, and by burning some part of houses down; we did, by what we acted

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, SEPTEMBER 1756.*—— [24TH.]

against Anandamungulum, not seek anything else but to hinder the Perumal Naiker from going further on in his Inconvenient Dealings and Malices, he had made use of hitherto; and to deliver the Inhabitants of the Company's Villages once from further Molestations. But when the King of Tanjour assisted him with Troops the affair fell out in a manner quite different from what we ever could imagine before, the Issue being a total Devastation of the Company's Territory, whereof by our former Letters to your Honour &c^a. we have given a clear Information. If now Perumal Naiker as your Honour thinks, could be delivered to our hands for to make good the Mischiefs he hath done to the Inhabitants of the Hoñble Company, and for to stop to him likewise the way of continuing his Chicaneries hitherto practised, we should be well satisfied with it. But since for all that the King of Tanjour hath been an Instrument for ruining the Territory of the Company by affording forces to Perumal Naiker in order to absolete it; we cannot pay any Tribute more from this place, it being a quite impossible thing to pay a Pension from a ruin'd and devastated ground, which your Honours easily will penetrate yourselves. Therefore we hope the King of Tanjour will remit us the Rent which we hitherto have payed; especially when your Honour according to your kind offer does propound in the best manner this our reasonable Postulation to the King of Tanjour. For which good Service we shall be highly obliged to you again.

As for the rest, we are to your Honour &c^a. very much beholden for all your good Offices shewed hitherto in this affair, beseeching to continue in this good design for to carry the busyness to a good end for the Company, kindly considering the close Connexion and good Harmony betwixt our two Nations in Europe. And having within these days the oftenmentioned troublesome Man, Perumal Naiker, been so daring again as to send a Fackier into our Bounds with the Message to our Inhabitants that he soon would come back again and cut off their heads if they should live in the Company's Bounds, and to forbid also by Threatenings to our Tile-makers not to continue in making Tiles though it is done upon our own Territory and Ground; So this Man's excessive malice is sufficiently to be perceived by it. It would be therefore a great deal of pleasure to us, when these things could be brought to an End before the midst of October; so that with our Ship which is to be dispatched at that time to Europe, we could give notice of it to our Hoñble Masters, because otherwise it would be of bad Consequences.

We remain finally with much Consideration and Sincerity

Fort Dansborg
3^d. Septr. 1756.

Your Honours &c^a.
Most humble Friends and Servants.

As the Danes have desisted from Hostilities & return'd the Troops which the French sent to their Assistance, the Committee are of opinion that the King of Tanjour ought to oblige the Polygar Permaul Naigue to make Reparation for the damages he has caused to the Danes, or to deliver him up to them. Agreed to write to the King of Tanjour accordingly, and further to use our Interest with him according to the Particular Request of the Gentlemen at Tranquebar, to get the annual tribute paid by that place remitted; provided that they on their part observe to keep within their old Limits without encroaching on the Tanjour Territories.

GEORGE PIGOT.
ROBERT CLIVE.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.
ROBT. PALK.

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[24th.] ——*FORT ST· GEORGE, SEPTEMBER 1756.*——

Sent the following Letter to Captain Caillaud pursuant to the foregoing Resolutions.

No. 40 To CAPTAIN JOHN CAILLAUD.

Sir

We have received your Letter No. 36, dated the 3d: September.

One Copy of your Monthly accounts to be inclosed to us is sufficient.

The Nabob has left it to us to take the Management of the Fort and District of Madura, the Seapoys therefore which we ordered in our last to be kept in that Fort will remain under your Direction as well as the Collecting in the best manner whatever Revenues may be due from the Country for the last year, and as it is our Intention to let out the Madura District upon the most advantageous Terms that may offer, we desire you will make Enquiry on that head and acquaint us with the Proposals you may receive, together with your opinion of the Person who shall make them.

We have desired the Nabob to order Mahofoz Cawn's Writer to transmit you the accounts of the Ballances due to Mahofoz Cawn from Tinnevelly and to assist Moodillee in collecting them. These Informations will be of use to you in adjusting accounts with Moodillee.

You may entertain the Deserter returned from Tanjour, and put him upon your Rolls.

We are Sir

Fort St George
24th Septr· 1756.

Your most Obedient Servant[s]
GEORGE PIGOT &c[a] Committee.

The Secretary sent the following Letter to Mr· Noble pursuant to the Order of the foregoing Committee.

To Mr: CHARLES FREDERICK NOBLE.

Sir

The Gentlemen of the Committee have directed me to acquaint you that they have received your Letter dated the 22d· of this month with the Papers accompanying it from No. 1 to No. 6.

They have directed me also to return you their thanks for the trouble you have taken in collecting the Informations contained in those papers, but to take notice to you at the same time that the Lights they may afford would have been equally useful had you forbear'd to cast Reflections on the Characters of the Gentlemen in the Government of Bengall; Reflexions as disagreeable to them (the Committee) to read, as unbecoming you to write, it being evident that your knowledge of their Proceedings can be founded only on Report, as your Residence at Bengal was very short.

The Committee will be obliged to you for the Plan of the Province of Bengal, and have given Directions to Captain Brohier to afford you such assistance as you shall require for the compleating or copying it.

I am Sir

Fort St George.
24th Septr: 1756

Your most Obedient Servant
HENRY VANSITTART. Secry·

28th. Sent the following Letter to the Governour and Council of Tranquebar Pursuant to the Resolutions of last Committee.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, SEPTEMBER 1756.*—— [28TH.]

To the Hoñble Hans George Krog Esqr. Govr.
and the Gentlemen of the Council at Tranquebar.

Gentlemen

We have received the pleasure of your Letter dated the 3^d. of this Month.

We are sensible of the Injuries done you by the Polygar Permaul Naick and of your Right to demand from him Satisfaction for all the Damages you have sustained; but as the Dominions of the King of Tanjour could not be deemed answerable for the acts of the said Polygar, therefore it could not be expected the King would quietly see any of his Places attacked.

Now as you have ceased Hostilities we think the King of Tanjour should see justice done you by the Polygar Permall Naik, and we have wrote to the King accordingly.

We fear it will be very difficult to procure from him a Release of the Annual Tribute paid by Tranquebar, but we will do our Endeavours to obtain this if possible; if not, the most beneficial Terms we can for you, being willing to give you all the Marks in our power of our Regard to that good understanding and intimate Alliance which subsists between our two Nations.

We are with perfect Esteem
Gent^n.
Your most Obedient
humble Servants
George Pigot &c^a. Committee.

Fort S^t. George
28th Septr. 1756.

At a Committee

Present

George Pigot Esqr	Governour President
Robert Clive	Stringer Lawrence
Robert Orme	Henry Powney
William Perceval	Robert Palk.

Tuesday the 28TH Sept^r.

The following Letter from Colonel Adlercron Read,

To George Pigot Esqr. President & Govr. &c^a.
Gentlemen of the Secret Committee.

Gentlemen

Matters being in a very critical situation here, it is necessary I should be prepared against the worst, and that I should provide for my own defence; I cannot therefore consent to part with any of my Ammunition and Stores 'till I am convinced by the Report of the Proper Officers, that you can replace them in case of exigency, with others equal in Quantity and Goodness. In the present case there is no trusting to private assurances, and before I can comply with your Request, you must permit our Commissary to take a Survey of your Stores, and the Report I shall receive from him will be a guidance to me how to act. The Supplies issued from your Stores, and which you observe, are in the Package blended with those belonging to his Majesty, are, I am well informed for the most part trifling articles,

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[28TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, SEPTEMBER 1756.*——

and can easily be separated ; The Capital Stores are the King's, nor can there be much difficulty in removing them, as they were last embarked, and consequently the uppermost.

I am Gentn
Your most Obedt. humble
Servant
JOHN ADLERCRON.

Fort St. George
the 25th Septr. 1756.

The President acquaints the Committee that immediately on the Receipt of Colonel Adlercron's above Letter, he ordered the King's Stores to be disembarked, finding that the Examination insisted on by Colonel Adlercron previous to his Compliance with Request we made him to let those Stores be carried for the Service of the Expedition, would cause even a greater delay than the Landing them and embarking the Company's Stores in their Room. The Committee cannot help expressing their Surprize on this Occasion to see Colonel Adlercron throwing continual Obstacles in the way of the Expedition instead of forwarding it.

The Stores being nearly embarked, and the other necessary Preparations in great forwardness it is Agreed to request of Admiral Watson and Admiral Pocock to be present with us to Morrow in order that it may be settled what number of Troops can be received on board the Several Ships of the Squadron, and also concerning the Prizes that may be taken ; on which Subject the Committee are of opinion that as the Company are to be at the whole Expence of the Expedition, which is set afoot with the hopes of procuring a Satisfaction and Reimbursement of the Immense Loss they have sustained, it is highly reasonable that the Plunder that may be taken, or a Portion of it, should be alotted for their Benefit.

And therefore it is Agreed to propose to Admiral Watson,

That the Town of Calcutta, if retaken by the Squadron, be immediately delivered up with everything that may be found within the Company's Limits for the sole use and benefit of the Company.

And in case it should be found necessary to attack any Moors Place with the Assistance of the Squadron, or to make Reprizals on Moors Vessels in the River, that the Produce of whatever may be so taken be deposited untill his Majesty shall determine concerning the Distribution.

By which means the Company will have it in their power to make such Application as they shall think proper.

Letters received by the Bombay Frigate from Bengall Vizt. Two from Roger Drake Esqr. and several of the Gentlemen of the late Council of Fort William, one from Major James Kilpatrick, and 2 from Mr. John Zephania Holwell, Read, as follow.

To THE HOÑBLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQR.
PRESIDENT AND GOVR. &CA COUNCIL OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

We have received your several Letters of the 8th, 14th & 20th July by the Mermaid Sloop, Norwood and Delawar, with the Consignments of Treasure and Redwood your Honour &cs have sent us on those Vessels.

Major Kilpatrick and the detachment under his Command joined us on the 31st Ultc ; Had his Reinforcement arrived before the Loss of our Settlement, it might have been of great use in defence of the place ; but in our present Situation we cannot pretend to undertake anything with so Small a force, and without Cannon, for which reason we flatter ourselves your Honour &cs will comply with the Request we have made by Mr. Manningham (Duplicate of which Address we now inclose you)

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, SEPTEMBER 1756.*—— [28th]

for assisting us with a sufficient Force both Military and Marine in order to Re-establish the Honble Company's Settlements in these Provinces, the importance whereof to our Employers we leave your Honr. &ca to judge.

Major Kilpatrick has in a separate Letter transmitted you a Return of the Military and Stores now in the Fleet; from which your Honour &ca will judge what Stores and Ammunition will be wanting, and supply us accordingly.

Should your Honour &ca not have it in your power to furnish us with a proper and necessary force to Re-establish us on a secure footing, we request you will send us the earliest notice of what we are to expect, as the Season is far advanced, and our Ships will not be able to proceed to the Coast after the 20th or 25th September. We are

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obedient humble

Servants

ROGER DRAKE JUNR—WILLM WATTS—JAS KILPATRICK—PAUL RICHD PEARKES—J. Z. HOLWELL—WILLM MACKETT—P. AMYATT—THOS BODDAM.

Fulta

18th August 1756.

TO THE HONBLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQR

PRESIDENT & GOVR &CA COUNCIL OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

Honble Sir & Sirs

That such Advices and Material Transactions which are requisite to be performed with diligence and secrecy might be so practis'd, a Secret Committee is composed consisting of the Subscribers hereto, who have thought proper to keep from the Knowledge of the Publick the contents of your Honour &ca's Letter dated the 4th Instant ℔ Sea Horse Sloop inclosing Invoice of one hundred Barrells of Powder and twenty Barrells of Musquit Ammunition, with the agreeable advice of Admiral Watson having been so good as to spare the Bridgwater Man of War, in order that your Honour &ca might have conveyance to Embark us a second detachment with a further Supply of Military Stores. From the latest Advices we learn that the Nabob's Forces quarter'd now at Calcutta, Tannatis Fort and Boug Bouggee consist of about Seven thousand, and that further numbers are ordered to proceed towards Calcutta. We esteem it necessary to acquaint your Honour &ca that many private Letters advise that the Bridgwater and Forces are preparing to proceed to our Relief; therefore to prevent too soon a Publication of your Resolutions touching what support you are able to afford us, we are to desire Express Orders may be given to every Commander of any Vessels proceeding down here, not to deliver any Letters whatsoever but to the Gentleman whom he may find acts at the Head of the Company's Affairs.

We are with Respect

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obedt humble

Servants

ROGER DRAKE—WILLIAM WATTS—J. Z. HOLWELL—JAMES KILLPATRICK.

Fulta.

19th August 1756.

TO THE HONBLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQR.

PRESIDENT AND GOVR. &CA COUNCIL OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

Honble Sir & Sirs.

I take this the first opportunity I could possibly meet with, to have the honour of acquainting you that I arrived in the River of [*sic*] the 28th Ulto. with the Troops

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[28—r] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, SEPTEMBER 1756.*——

under my Command, mostly in good Health and Spirits. Of those I here now inclose you a Return together with a State of the Military at Bengall and of the Ordnance Stores. I need not I believe inform you Gentlemen, of the Melancholly news I met with upon my first Arrival here; which you will no doubt have heard before this can reach you, and with all it's cruel circumstances from Mr Manningham.

I left the Delawar, which is now safely come up, on the 30th Ultimo at the Request of the Governour and Council, and found them the same day on board of their Ships in a situation not easy to be described. You may more easily imagine the Condition of those poor Gentlemen, driven out from their Habitations, driven out from all they have in the World, and what is worst, having lost all or almost all that had been committed to their Charge; where many people around them who have also lost their All, are discontented and even troublesome, pretending to find fault and give their opinions without shewing that Respect which they ought. I hope however when we all meet, for there are still three of the Council up at the French Factory, that we shall then be able to re-establish Harmony, and take such Resolutions as will be most for the Benefit of the Honble Company, and advantage of the whole.

When I mention the Council I ought to inform you Gentlemen that I have the honour to act here as one of the Members, in a manner at the desire of the Gentlemen themselves. For they told me that it was the Company's orders. that wherever a Major happened to be with them, he should always take the third place at the Board, which I accordingly did; tho' I let them know at the same time that I never had had that honour with you, and the Reasons which had been given for it.

We have been pretty well supplied with Provisions since I have come here, which has a good deal taken off from the Apprehensions of the Country People, who I believe are otherwise disposed to supply us, as we take care that they are well used.

The Place and Situation we are in, renders it extreamly unhealthy, and I am sorry to hear that it will be but more so as the Season advances. Yet I don't believe we well can move from this, 'till we have had Advices from you; for I am informed that both sides of the River downwards, and a good Way upwards, are so entirely Swamps and Paddy fields that it would be impossible to keep the people on Shore: and to attack the Enemy at present, tho' we were even sure to make ourselves Masters of Calcutta, would be to no manner of Purpose in the World, if you are not in a condition to send us large Supplies of in short everything.

I have found neither Men, Guns, nor Ammunition here. [The] inclosed will shew you our Numbers. The four field Pieces you sent with me is all our Train; And the Ammunition you sent with those is all we have got of the Kind. Captain Winter spared us some Powder and Lead, with which I have made up about fifty Rounds a Man; which is all we have to trust to, in case of an Attack, of which we have had some uncertain Reports; particularly from a great Armament of Boats which we have heard they are preparing against us up the River.

Affairs are in such a Situation here, that I have entirely given over all thoughts for the present, of returning home, as I intended. I have always had that Attachment to the Honble Company, whatever disappointments I may have met with, as never to have let any Private Concerns sway with me, where they were at all interested: nor would I ever leave their Service unless I was extreamly ill used indeed, at a time when my Staying might be so necessary as it very probably will be here. I was sorry it is true, to find this Season that they had not thought it proper to put me on the footing that the Station you had given me, and my Services I imagined might have deserved. But as I have always had so much your good Inclinations, Gentlemen, I hope you will be able to represent things to them in such a manner by the first Shipping, that they will think it right to consider me in a way that will be both agreeable to me and for my Honour.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, SEPTEMBER 1756.*—— [28ma.]

I have the honour to be with the greatest Respect, & Sincerity

Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedient and most
humble Servant

From on board the
Delawar

Fulta 5th Augst 1756.

JAMES KILLPATRICK.

To the Honble George Pigot Esqr.
President & Governour &c^a Council
of Fort St George.

Honble Sir & Sirs.

Little capable as I am in my present distressed situation of executing a task of this kind, it yet cannot be neglected, consistent with my duty to my Honble Employers, and the trust last devolved on me at their Settlement of Fort William, now their's no more : an incident, I doubt not but you have before this been advised of by Pattamars from this City, and possibly by our late President from Ingilee ; this conjecture however will not excuse my omitting to transmit you under General Heads the several Gradations by which our Honble Masters have sustained this Important Loss; these I am to request you will forward to them by the most Expeditious conveyance in your power, whilst I refer them and you to a particular and distinct Narrative of the Causes and Various Accidents which contributed to our Fatal Catastrophe in those Provinces, which I will attempt as soon as the Recovery of my Health (now much Impaired) will enable me.

Our Factory at Cossimbussar being given up to the Nabob the 4th of June last (by the most unhappy and unaccountable infatuation in our Chief and Council there) the Foundation of our Ruin was laid ; the Accession was to [*sic*] great to the Nabob to be relinquished ; and he was sensible he must relinquish it as well as restore our Money and Goods Seized at the different Aurungs, or entirely extirpate us from the Province ; the Cannon, Ammunition and Military Stores he became possess'd of at Cossimbuzar [*sic*] determined him to the Latter ; and as he expected some Succours might reach us from the Coast, he marched against us with the whole Force of his Army consisting by the best Accounts we have since acquired, of 30,000 Horse and 35,000 Foot with four hundred Elephants of War ; though our best Information during his Approach, made his Force no more than 6 or 7000 Horse and 12, or 15,000 Foot ; nor could we ever learn with any Certainty wether the Nabob marched against us in Person or not ; for he had cut off all Communication between us and the Gentlemen of Cossimbuzar (whom with the Garrison he made Prisoners) and our Spies either had not courage enough to approach his Army for any just intelligence, or not integrity enough to give it us on the Earliest Notice of his Real Intention ; We made all the disposition in our power for his Reception, tho' I believe never was Fortress less defensible, encumbered with Houses close round us impossible to destroy or pull down ; No Esplanade for our Guns. No Ditch, no Glacis. A Ravalin half finished that did us more diservice than Service, a number of Lanes and Avenues opening within less than half musket Shot of our Fort. To Remedy these Evils, Advanced Posts were appointed, Ditches sunk, Breast works thrown up and Advanced Batteries raised at three principal posts, to wit, at the Court House Eastward, at the Corner of Griffith's House to the Northward, and at Mr. Pearce's Bridge to the Southward, and the Jail was fortified as a further advanced Post ; We had flattered ourselves that we should have mustered between five or six hundred Effective Men Europeans and Blacks and Militia, Inhabitants, and those belonging to the Shipping, but to our utmost astonishment when our Military Roll was returned in Council it consisted only of 45 of the Train & 145 Infantry and in both, only 60 Europeons, in the Militia were about 100 Armenians, who were entirely useless, and more than that number amongst the Black Militia ; so that in Fact when the

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sea faring people who most of them appeared only at the first Muster were draughted off on board the Vessels (of which we had in Port about 30 Sail of every Craft at least), our Garrison did not consist of 250 fighting men, Officers included.

On the 7th June all Provisions were Prohibited by the Nabob being brought into Calcutta by orders to the several Zemindaars round us and the other side of the River between the 10th & 13th June several parties of the Nabob's Troops took Possession of Tanners Fort to cut off our Communication on the River from below; on the 14th three or four Ships were sent Down to dislodge them, without Effect: on the 16th Baagbazar Redoubt was attacked by the Nabob's Army, who were repulsed with considerable Loss to them by Lieut^{t}. Blagg and Ensign Piccard and 25 Men with 30 Buckserries; Here two European Soldiers were killed; and M^{r}. Ralph Thoresby, a hopeful young Gentleman, who with many others of the Junior Servants had entered Volunteers in the Infantry. About this time two Moors Ships were brought under our Guns which by way of Reprizal we had taken below. On the 17th All our Buckserries to the number of near 700 taken (the most of them) into our pay on this occasion, fled to a Man from out-Chowkeys, and I believe deserted to the Enemy. Early this day our principal Post to the Northward by M^{r}. Griffith's was attack'd, and something later that at the Court House by flying Parties from the Streets and Houses whilst a Multitude of Detached Parties from the Nabob's Army were plundering and destroying every part of the Town to the Northward; these two Advanc'd Posts were continually allarmed and harrassed the whole day and the Succeeding Night and Day; that is to say, the 18th, when the Enemy brought a 12 Pounder supported with about 5000 Musketry, to bear against the Jail, which was gallantly defended by a French Officer Monsr. La'Beaume with Ensign Carstairs and 32 Men detached from the Advanced Post at the Court house, and maintained untill about noon, when Monsr. LaBeaume and Ens^{n}. Carstairs being Wounded, some of the Train killed, and others of the detachment disabled; the Post was relinquished and one field Piece brought off with the Party. About 4 in the Afternoon the Enemy having taken Possession of the Houses all round the Advanced Post, at the Court House, it was ordered to be abandoned and the same Evening the like orders were sent to the other two Posts to the Southward and Northward, and Piccard's Party recalled from Baag Bazar. This Evening at a Council of War it was resolved to Embark the Company's Treasure Books and the European Ladies, and further agreed that the Ships should remain under the Guns of the Fort. Messrs. Manningham and Frankland, (the first Colonel, the other Lieu^{t}. Colonel of the Militia) conducted the Ladies on board, and I understood were to return, when they had reconciled the Ladies to their Situation but they never returned again, no more did Captain Lieu^{t}. Mapletoft, Lieu^{t}. Henry Wedderburn, Ensign William Sumner, Charles Douglas and Robert Halsey Baldrick all Officers of the Militia, besides about 15 of the Volunteers, and many of the Militia who deserted the Fort this day and the Succeeding Morning. On the 18th more advanced in the Night, we held another Council of War, and the Captain of the Train being ordered to make a Return of the Ammunition, We were thunderstruck when he reported there was not full three days Ammunition in the Garrison, the debate then turned on the Question, whether a Retreat with the Garrison and all the Company's Effects could be attempted that night; but so much of it elapsed in debate only, that it became impracticable till the next, when myself and I believe every body else present judged the Retreat was determined to be carried into Execution; in the Morning of the 19th the Enemy were pretty quiet, and only now and then threw a Random Shot at the Fort from the Batteries they had raised in three or four different Stations, whilst they were busy in forming Lodgements in the houses round us. About 9 this Morning our President M^{r}. Drake, Commandant Minchin, Messrs. Macket 2^{d} Captain of Militia, Captain Grant Adjutant General, M^{r} O'Hara Lieutenant of the Train privately withdrew out of the back gate, deserted the Factory, and Embarked on board the Shiping, which immediately weighed and stood down the River, without leaving us a single boat at the Got, or Possibility of making a General Retreat, and this, before any Attack had been actually made on the Fort; On the Governour &c^{as}' desertion being

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known, the Garrison fell into the utmost confusion and tumults when the Gentlemen remaining of the Council, Officers and others, intreated I would immediately take upon me the Government of the Fort, as the only means of quieting the Present Tumults, which must otherwise end in the destruction of the whole. A Council was directly called, and Mr. Pearkes waving his Right of Seniority, himself and Messrs. Eyre and Bailley appointed me Governour and Administrator of the Honble Company's Affairs during the troubles; in which Light I was recogniz'd by the whole Garrison. I immediately visited every Post and soon quieted the minds of the people by assuring them they should have three Chests of Treasure divided amongst the Soldiers and Militia, if they would defend the Fort untill we could make a General Retreat with all the Company's Effects, and that I would be the last Man that quitted the Fort. At the Council held as above, we suspended the President and the Gentlemen of the Council and Officers with him from the Company's Service, it being the only just piece of Resentment, in our power, for the cruel piece of Treachery they had been guilty of to the whole Garrison, as well as Breach of Trust to their Employers. We likewise sent an order to Captain Hague Commander of the Company's Ship St George stationed at Baag Bazar to Weigh and immediately drop down opposite the Lane between the new Godowns of the Factory, and the Company's house, these new Godowns being the Weakest part of the Fort and not flanked by any Gun from it; the Ship in this Station would have accomplished this Service, have contributed to dislodge the Enemy from the Company's house, and have been under our Guns, as she was then the only Chance we had for a General Retreat, three or four Boats being yet with her. Mr. Pearkes was so obliging as to Tender himself with three or four Voluntiers on this Service and went on board accordingly, but the Pilot neither that day nor the next would undertake to bring her down lower than opposite Mr. Watts's House, where she was useless to us. To return to our Situation. The 19th after the President's desertion from Council I had hardly gone round the Ramparts, before the Enemy attacked the Fort incessantly the whole remainder of the day from their Batteries and small Arms, of the former from the Battery We had raised at the Court House from another they had Erected in Mr. Alsop's Compound between the Court House and the Jail, from the third Erected at the South West Corner of the Park, from a Fourth in the Reverend Mr. Bellamy's Compound, and from a Small Battery they had raised by the Dock Head they fired so wildly from their Batteries they would not have made a Breach in a Twelvemonth, tho' they fired from 18 Pounders, but their small Arms from the Houses round us, particularly the Company's, Captain Rannie's and Mr. Cruttenden's annoyed us much, from whence we several times dislodg'd them with great slaughter and obliged them at last to set fire to them and abandon them. The 19th at night our people had some Recess, but were obliged to sleep on their Arms. The 20th in the Morning the Enemy formed three assaults at once, against the North West Bastion, the Northwest Futtock or Barrier, and against the Windows of the Laboratory on the Eastern Curtain and attempted to Scale to the Northward from each of these assaults; they were beat off with Great Loss to them before Noon, and a general cessation in a manner ensued for some hours, when finding we had 25 kill'd and 70 or more of our best men wounded and our Train killed, wounded and deserted to all but 14 and not two hours Ammunition left, we threw out a Flag of Truce towards the Evening intending to amuse the Enemy and make the best retreat we could in the night to the St George, not then knowing that she was on a sand opposite to Omy Chund's House, during the Parley our back gate was betrayed to the Enemy in concert I judge with some that had deserted the Preceeding Night from the Walls and those who had the Guard of that Gate, who were obliged to wrench off the Locks and Bolts, the keys being in my possession; in this Situation we had nothing left to resolve on but a Surrender at Discretion.

Thus have I transmitted to your Honour &c^a^ as circumstantial an account of this Melancholy Event, as my State of Body and Mind will at present permit me (ruin'd in my own private fortune as well as) much Injured in Constitution of both, having barely strength to hold the Pen, a yet necessary Period, whilst I

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advise you that of the Enemy we killed first and Last by their own confession 5000 of their Troops and 80 Jemauldars and Officers of Consequence, exclusive of the Wounded. The Resistance we made, and the Loss they suffer'd, so irritated the Nabob that he ordered myself and all the Prisoners promiscuously to the number of about 165 or 170 to be crammed all together into a small Prison in the Fort called the Black Hole, from whence only about 16 of us came out alive in the morning, the rest being suffocated to Death. Amongst those, Myself, Mr. Richard Court, Mr John Cooke, Mr. Lushington, Ensign Walcott, Mr. Burdett (a young Gentleman Voluntier) Capt. Mills, Captain Dickson and about 7 or 8 Soldiers Blacks and Whites; amongst the Dead, Messrs Eyre and Wm. Bailley, the Revd Mr. Bellamy, Messrs Jenks, Revely, Law, Coales, &ca. Our three Military Captains and 9 Subalterns many of our Voluntiers and Inhabitants, of whom Particular Lists shall be forwarded to the Honble Company as Recollection enables me, Myself, Messrs. Court, Walcott and Burdett were sent to the Camp the 21st in the morning, there put in Irons and marched the 22d: three miles to Town in the Sun and our Irons; with no covering to our Heads and hardly any to our Bodies. At the Dock head we were detain'd the 22d 23d & 24th and the Evening of that day put on board an open boat for this City destitute of a Rupee or any necessaries of Life; on the 7th Instant we arrived here (our subsistence in the way Rice & Water) and were deposited under a Guard in an open stinking Cow House, a Spectacle to the whole City (and hardly escaped a second Smothering) untill the 11th when we were removed to the Jemauldar's House under whose Custody we were; On the 15th we were again remanded to the Cow House flatter'd with hopes of knowing our Ultimate Fate; there we remained that Night, and Yesterday had our Fetters struck off and were once again blest with Liberty and freedom to go where we pleased. The Humanity and Friendship we received here from the Gentlemen of the French and Dutch Factories will ever require our most grateful remembrance.

It only remains that I inform your Honour &ca that at the first Approach of the troubles, we wrote to Chundanagore and Hughley to join us in a cause we deemed common, and press'd their assistance with Men and Ammunition; the answer we receiv'd from Hughley was, that they were ordered by their Principals to remain Neuter in all disputes of this kind with the Government. From Chandanagore, the answer was more favourable but of equal Utility to us; for when we pressed them for Ships and Ammunition they genteely refused us, and pleaded their own Weakness. Neither were we deficient in writing Letter after Letter to the Nabob, making him ev'ry concession in our power; of which he took not the least notice nor return'd one answer.

Your Honour &ca have heard of the Sufferings of the Gentlemen with me, which alone entitles them to the Honble Company's favour; but I should do great Injustice to Messrs. Court and Walcott if I omitted mentioning them in the particular manner they merit; the former the only Officer of the Militia; the other, the only one of the Military alive, who did not desert their Colours. The former has distinguished himself as a faithfull Covenant Servant, and both as Gallant Officers. Dacca Factory is given up; but Luckipore receiv'd timely advice to withdraw, and have I hear, joined our late President at Ingillee.

I am with Respect
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedient humble
Servant

J. Z. Holwell.

Muxadavad,
17th July 1756.

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——*FORT S^T. GEORGE, SEPTEMBER 1756.*—— [28th.]

To the Honble George Pigot Esqr.
President & Governour &c^a Council
of Fort St George.

Honble Sir & sirs

With this you have Copy of my Letter dispatched ℔ Pattamar from Muxadavad the 17th Ult^o. on the Reprizal of which I find a few Errors and Omissions occasioned by the wretched state I was then in, and which I now beg leave to rectify.

On the three Advanced Batteries being withdrawn Friday the 18th possession was taken by our Troops of the Church, and Messrs Eyres, Cruttenden's, the Company's and Omychund's Houses, but were all abandoned the next day (I think after the Desertion of the President, Commandant &c^a but will be only positive as to the Party in M^r. Cruttenden's House, commanded by Captn. Lieutenant Smith. Because when I was going round the Ramparts after being appointed to the Government of the Fort, I discoursed with that Party from the Curtain next to M^r. Cruttenden's House.

In my Letter of the 17th July I omitted mentioning the Enemy having made a Lodgement on the Church on the Morning of the 20th, but they did not finish their Breast Work of Bales upon it, untill after 12. From this Post which commanded every Line and Bastion of the Fort, the Enemy must have been dislodg'd by a Counter Lodgement upon the top of the Factory House, had there been Ammunition to have maintained the Fort any Longer.

I likewise omitted mentioning that one of the Moors Ships which were under our Guns, was intended to be taken with the S^t. George for the General Retreat we had intended and plann'd for the night of the 20th and which would have been carried into execution the 19th at Night, had the St George come down to us with her Boats.

In my mention of the Western Gate being betrayed to the Enemy during the Party, [*sic*] I did not advise that the Guard there and a great part of the Garrison, Military and Militia, rushed out the moment the Gate was opened and endeavoured to Escape; many were killed, some escaped, and others received Quarter. The Gate was forced by a Serjeant of the Train named Hedelburgh now in the Service of the Nabob. During the Parly, the Southerly Futtock or Barrier was deserted by the Serjeant and Guard there, who fled and the Enemy forcing that Barrier, found nothing to oppose their Entrance into the Fort; as soon as the Western Gate was forced, All the foregoing particulars in this Paragraph came not to my knowledge untill my Return from Muxadavad.

I remarked to your Honour &c^a 5000 of the Enemy being killed by their own confession; but from more certain Intelligence their Loss is first and last Seven thousand at least.

I over-reckoned the number of Prisoners put into the Black Hole and the number of the Dead; The former being only 146, and the latter 123, many recovering after Air was let in, by opening the door in the morning; and many more I doubt Not might have recovered had any means or care been taken of them. I charg'd the Nabob with designedly having ordered the Unheard of Piece of Cruelty of cramming us all into that small Prison; but I have now reason to think I did him injustice. His orders I learn was only general "That we should be Imprisoned that Night, our Number being too great to be at Large." And being left to the Mercy and Direction of his Jemauldars and Burkandasses, their resentment for the number of their Brethren Slain took this method of Revenge; and indeed they ceased not insulting us the whole night, Tho' Witnesses of Horrors which bar all description.

I have said there was an Order of Council the 18th in the Evening for Embarking the Company's Treasure Books and the Ladies. On Recollection I think the Company's Books was not part of the Order. My mistake arose from a short conversation after Council between M^r. Manningham and Myself on the Propriety of carrying also the Company's Books and essential papers off with him, when he

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went to conduct the Ladies. Whether the Treasure or Books were Embarked I cannot say, the late President and Gentlemen below who have assumed the Title and Authority of Agents for the Company's Affairs, are the best Judges. After the President's departure, I made Enquiry after the Sub Treasurer and keys of the Treasury, but neither one or the other was to be found. I intended on the first Recess to have opened the Treasury to have been satisfied in this Particular; but that recess never came.

I have said the Enemy was Repulsed at Baag Bazar Redoubt by Ensign Piccard and 25 Men, but forgot to mention his being re-inforced by Lieut^t. Blagg and 30 Men; I also omitted that the S^t. George Capt. Hague and another small Vessell commanded by Captain Campbell was stationed up the River to Cover that Post. At the Attack of which, the Enemy lost at least 800 Men from the fire of the Detachment on shore, and from the Ships; which oblig'd them to abandon their design of entering at that Quarter which they never attacked again.

I have more than once made mention of the want of Ammunition as one principal cause of the Loss of the Settlement; but beg leave to remark here, that had the Quantity of Ammunition remaining, been ever so great, it would have been morally impossible to have defended the Fort another day, circumstanced as we were. For (not to mention the particulars of less moment, such as some of our Dutch Soldiers being drunk, and a few worthless low fellows amongst the Militia, Seditious and Troublesome) Our Garrison by the Numbers killed, Wounded and Deserted became so reduced, that the Duty and Action was Continual and without Relief, and the Strength of both Officers and Soldiers were in a manner quite exhausted. I should not have added any trouble to your Honour &c^a on this Subject, had I not been informed that a Pompous Account of the Ammunition in Fort William when taken, has been transmitted to your Presidency, and to my Honble Masters; by some whom I am sorry to say must in this case have been glad to act on Leveling Principles; or they would have been a little more Circumspect in transmitting the Report, which I hear was taken from an old Invalid Serjeant of the Train Named Myers, and a Motross [*sic*] of the Train named Miller, which account as I am further informed was given by those people as the whole of the Ammunition contained in the Factory at the beginning of the Siege, and indeed must be so from the Nature of things, tho' I hear it is transmitted to your Honour &c^a as an Account of Ammunition &c^a remaining in the Fort when Surrendered. This I will suppose was by mistake, for I would not be thought to Insinuate it could possibly be done with design. The whole Quantity of the Company's Powder in the Magazine of the Fort was at the beginning 740 Maunds only; and some quantity belonging to the Ships which as usual on their Importing were deposited there, and a double quantity re-deliver'd to them when sent on Service to Tanners Fort and to Cover Baag Bazar Redoubt. Four Ships I think to Tanners, and two to Baag Bazar. The former cannonaded that Post as I remember a day and night, and sent for a supply of Powder which they receiv'd, and none was returned back from any of them. Add to this, the Powder expended in the number of shells, thrown, the continued cannonading from the Advanced Batteries to the Northward and Eastward, as well as from the Fort the 18th and from the Fort only on the 19th & 20th and it will appear impossible there could be many hours ammunition in the Fort when Surrender'd. Add to this, the Captn. of the Train's Report in Council the 18th which must surely carry greater weight and conviction with it, than that of the people abovementioned, supposing their Report to have been as transmitted; to Corroborate which report of Captn. L. Witherington I beg leave to mention another circumstance—that during the Enemy's three Attacks made to the Northward in the morning of the 20th. M^r. Bailley and the Captain of the Train came to me and pressed my then throwing out a Flag of Truce, the latter telling me there was no Powder left, but what was wet; I asked him whether there was not enough for a few hours. He replied that was the utmost; I then told him the Enemy should be first convinced we could repulse them, and that a Flag of Truce would be afterwards thrown out with a much better prospect of Success. The small quantity of Powder at the beginning was the

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reason we could not think of blowing up the Houses round us, and to have pulled them down would have been two month's work, Pucca Houses near as strong as the Fort itself. Powder we made every day more or less untill the place was actually invested, but it was wet and useless, and a dependence on some Shells filled with this Powder had like to have been the Loss of the NW^d. Bastion the morning of the 20th. not one of them taking. Thus on the whole I may Aver to your Honour &c^a that not one article in the account of Ammunition transmitted you, said to be in the Fort at the time We surrendered is true, save that of the Wet Powder, of which I believe there was about 100 Maund.

Accompanying this are the Several Lists promised in mine of the 17th Ult^o they are as correct as I at present can make them, and are deficient in nothing but in the number of those of the Militia and Others who quitted the Fort the 18th & 19th. whose names I cannot obtain untill I join our scatter'd Colony below, which I intend doing in a day or two if I can attempt the thing with any degree of Safety having advice that Major Kilpatrick is arrived on the Delawar with a Reinforcement of 250 Men.

I am with much Respect
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obed^t. humble
Servant
J. Z. HOLWELL.

Houghly
3^d. August 1756.

A List of those who quitted Fort William the 18th & 19th June 1756.

Governour Drake 19th June.
Colonel Maningham 18th.
Lieut. Col^n. Frankland 18th.
M^r. Mackett 2^d. Capt. Militia 19th.
Capt. Minchin Command^t. D^o.
Capt. Grant, Adjut^t.-General D^o.
Rev^d. M^r. Mapletoft, Capt. Lieut M^a. 19th.
Charles O'Hara Ens^n. & Lieut. Train 19th.
Henry Wedderburn, Lieut. Mil^a 19th.
Charles Douglas Ens^n. Mil^ia 19th.
Thomas Holmes Lieut. Militia 18th.
William Sumner do.
Robt. Halsey Baldrick Ens^n. Militia 19th.

Voluntiers.

M^r. William Ellis 19th
M^r. William Billers.
M^r. William Rider 19th.
M^r. Ascan^s Senior.
M^r. William Orr.
M^r. Francis Vasmer 19th.
Mr Robert Leicester.
M^r. Stephen Page.
M^r. William Tooke.
M^r. Francis Charlton.
M^r.— Champion 19th.
Captn. Lodwick Lord. Wounded.
Capt.—. Campbell 19th.

Militia.

M^r. Edwd. Holden Cruttenden.
M^r. Anselm Beaumont.
Captain David Rannie.

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Militia—*cont^d.*

Mr. William Nixon.
Mr. John Putham
Capt. Nicholson & Officers.
Captain Austin & do.
M^r. William Lindsay.
Captain Whatmoug & Officers.
Captain Young and D^o.
M^r. Margass.
M^r. Pyfinch.
Captain Walmly.
William Burton
Monsieur Albert.
Monsieur Albert.
Monsieur Carvalho.
M^r. John Wood.
Captain Laing.
Henry Sumus.
Captain Hugh Bailley.
Edward Ridge.
William Elves.
Daniel Whaley.
William Ling.
John Strousenbourgh.
John Helmstead &c^a.

Doctors.

William Fullerton.

A List of those smothered in the Black Hole the 20th June 1756 at Night exclusive of the English, Dutch, & Portugueze Soldiers, whose names I am Unacquainted with.

Messrs. Edward Eyre, William Bailey } Esq^rs.
Rev^d. M^r. Jervas Bellamy.
Messrs. Jenks
Revely
Law
Valicourt
Jebb
Coales
Toriano
E. Page
Grubb
Street
Harod
Johnston
Ballard
N. Drake.
Carse.
Knapton.
Goslin.
Bing.
Dodd.
Dalrymple.
Capt^ns Clayton Command^t.
Buckanon
Witherington
Lieut^s Bishop
Hays
Blagg
Simson
Bellamy Junior
Ensigns Piccard
Scott
Hastings
Chas. Wedderburn
Serjeant Major
Dumbleton Ens^n Mil^ia.
M^r. Atkinson
Abraham, Cartwright, Bleau } Serj^t Mil^ia.
M^r. Cary
M^r. Stephenson
M^r. Guy.
M^r. Porter
Captn. Hunt
Captn. Parker
Steph^n. Page
Captn. Osborne
Captn. Purnel
M^r. Calker
M^r. Bendall &c^a.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, SEPTEMBER 1756.*—— [28TH]

A List of those who came alive out of the Black Hole, the 21st. in the morning.

Messrs Holwell
Court
Cooke
Walcott
Lushington
Burdet.
Captn. Mills
Captn. Dickson
& 8 or 9 Soldiers & Gunners.

A List of Officers Killed and Wounded after the Desertion of the Govr. &ca.

Capt Lieut. Smith ... Killed
Capt Pickering. One of the Captains of the Points at the Great Guns. Killed.
Lieut. Simpson. Wounded
Lieut. Talbot. Wounded and died of his Wounds the 21st. in the morning.
Ensign Piccard. Wounded.
Do. Scott Do.
Do Coales of ye Milia. Wounded.
Do Car[s]tairs. Wounded at the Jail the 18th. As also Monsieur LaBeaume who commanded at that Post.

Ordered that the Secret Committee be referr'd to these Minutes in our next Address for a Copy of Holwell's Letters, agreable to that Gentlemans desire, and that Answers be wrote to Mr Drake &ca Gentlemen at Fulta and to Major Killpatrick, when the General Instructions for the Intended Expedition are prepared.

Mr. Manningham arrived this Morning from Bengall.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

GEORGE PIGOT ESQr GOVERNOUR, PRESIDENT. WEDNESDAY THE 29TH.
ROBERT CLIVE STRINGER LAWRENCE
HENRY POWNEY ROBERT ORME
WILLIAM PERCEVAL ROBERT PALK.

Charles Watson Esqr Rear Admiral of the Red and George Pocock Esqr. Rear Admiral of the White likewise present at the Request of the Committee.

Discourse being had concerning the Intended Expedition to Bengall, Mr. Watson recommends that it be conducted in all Respects like that to Gheria.

It is to be observed in regard to the Expedition to Gheria First that Mr Watson and Mr. Pocock were joined with Colonel Clive and Mr Hough in a Commission for the Conduct of the Expedition, And Secondly that every thing taken at Gheria even to the Guns and Ammunition was appropriated to the benefit of the Captors, altho' the Company was at the whole expence of fitting out the Armament, and also of repairing the damage done to his Majesty's Ships.

How far the Gentlemen at Bombay were right to consent to such terms the Committee do not take upon them to determine; but they proceed to offer to Mr. Watson's Consideration several Reasons why the Present Intended Expedition to Bengall ought not to be conducted in the same manner.

With regard to the first Point (the Powers to be given Mr. Watson) the Committee represent to Mr Watson, that the Present Expedition to Bengall is intended for the Re-establishment of the Company's Ancient Settlements in that Province, upon the former, or if possible, a better footing; that this must be done by Treaty with the Nabob, and that this Treaty which regards only the Company's Rights and Priviledges can properly be conducted by none but the Company's Representatives at Bengal.

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[29TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, SEPTEMBER 1756.*——

The Military Part of the Expedition, by the Success of which it is hoped the Nabob will be brought to enter upon such a Treaty, should undoubtedly be conducted by a Council of War composed of Officers of the Sea or Land Forces, or both, according to the nature of the Undertaking; but the Civil Part, such as the making of Treaties for the Re-establishment of the Company's Rights and Priviledges, and the Regulating the Affairs of their former Settlements, the Committee judge can belong only to the Civil Servants of the Company.

Mr. Watson then desired to know plainly what Powers he was to be vested with, and what Services we should request of him to perform upon the Present Expedition; to which the Committee answer'd that the Powers he had from his Majesty were quite sufficient, and that they should only request of him to perform such Services as may be recommended to him by the Company's Representatives in Bengall.

With regard to the Second Point (the distribution of Captures) it is to be consider'd that the Present Expedition to Bengall is fitted out, like that to Gheria, at the vast and sole expence of the Company, but with different views; that to Gheria was to root out a Robber who had long invested the Seas and so to give a future Security to their Trade, and by the Capture of his places to acquire new Possessions to themselves; This to Bengall is intended for the Recovery of the Ancient Settlements, Rights and Priviledges of the East India Company, which have suddenly been wrested from them, and to Reimburse by Reprizals, if all other means prove ineffectual, the Immense Loss they have so recently sustained in their own Property. The Committee therefore think themselves obliged to exert their utmost Efforts to secure to the Company the immediate Possession of their own Settlements that may be retaken, and such Portion of the Reprizals that may be made upon the Moors as his Majesty shall be pleas'd to adjudge to them. Accordingly the Committee now deliver to Mr Watson in writing the Representations resolved on last Committee, as follow

1st. As it may be supposed that one or more of the Men of War will be sent before Calcutta, and the Moors driven out by her Cannon. It is requested of Mr. Watson that he will land Colonel Clive with the Company's Troops or a part of them, to take Possession again of that Settlement, and whatever may be found within the Company's limits as usually understood, from Perrin's Garden down to Surman's Garden, for the Sole Benefit of the Company, which Request it is hoped will be thought reasonable as the Company have suffered an Immense Loss, and are to be at the whole expence of the Expedition.

2d. Should it be judged proper by the Company's Representatives after the taking of Calcutta to request the assistance of the Squadron to attack Hughley or any other Moors Town, or to make Reprizals in the River upon Moors Vessels it is hoped it will not be thought unreasonable that Commissaries be appointed on both sides to dispose of the Prizes that may be so taken, their Produce to be deposited untill it shall be determined by his Majesty in what manner it should be distributed; A Gratuity to be given for the present at the Discretion of the Council of War to the Petty Officers and Private Men, and to be deducted out of the Portion which may be allotted to them.

Mr. Watson assur'd the Committee that for his own part he was ready to give up all Private Advantages for the Good of the Company and the Publick, but as every Man in the Squadron was also concern'd, the Proposals must be laid before a Council of War, which he would summon immediately and communicate their Determination without Loss of time.

Mr. Watson then enquired of the Committee what number of Men was intended to be sent on the Expedition to Bengal; In answer to which the Committee informed him their design was to send four hundred Military Rank and File, and one hundred Train, besides the Detachment of the Regiment now on board the Squadron consisting

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, SEPTEMBER 1756.*— —— [20th.]

of about two hundred Men; but in case that Detachment did not proceed, then that it was their Intention to send six hundred Military Rank and File, and one hundred Train; and further that it was designed to send as many Seapoys as Conveyances could be found for.

M^r. Watson acquaints the Committee that the five hundred Europeans only could be distributed on board the Several Ships of the Squadron, over and above the Detachment of the Regiment.

Agreed to Embark the Europeans on his Majesty's Ships, and to send by the Company's Ships Marlborough and Walpole all the Seapoys they can take on board, and to make use of any future Conveyances that may offer for the Embarkation of more Seapoys.

The Committee then requested of M^r. Watson to Land the Detachment of the Regiment in case Application should be made to him by the Company's Representatives at Bengal, which he readily promises with the Proviso that he shall himself see an absolute necessity for their Service on shore and is assured that they shall be reimbarked upon his Call.

Lastly the Committee debated with M^r. Watson concerning the Regulation of the Councils of War that may be found necessary to be held in Bengal, and the Presidency of the Several Officers, in order to prevent future Altercations on that head which might interrupt the Service; accordingly the following Articles were formed in concert and with the unanimous consent of Admiral Watson, Admiral Pocock, Colonel Clive and the whole Committee.

1st. It is proposed that at all Councils of War held on board his Majesty's Ships, the Commanding Officer of the Ships shall Preside and call to his assistance such other Captains of the Squadron, as he shall see proper, together with Colonel Clive and any other Field Officer.

2^d. That at all Councils of War held on shore, Colonel Clive shall Preside and call to his Assistance such Field Officers as he shall see proper, together with the Captains of such part of the Squadron as are employed on the Joint Service. This is understood to be in the Absence of any Flag Officer.

The two Articles being deliver'd to M^r. Watson in writing, he acquainted the Committee he should lay them before the Council of War; and then

Admiral Watson and Admiral Pocock withdrew.

Letter from Captain Maskelyne Commanding in Arcot Fort Read, advising of Ensign Kerr's March for Madras with fifty of the best Men of his Garrison, and remarking that those who remain are chiefly Recruits.

The President at the same time acquainted the Committee that upon Application from Captain Maskelyne for leave to proceed with the Intended Detachment for Bengal, in consideration of his Rank, being one of the Oldest Captains, and of his being long deprived of an Opportunity of going on Service during the last troubles by being a Prisoner of War; He had permitted him to come to Madras for that purpose, and directed the Eldest Officer to take charge of the Garrison of Arcot.

The President further acquaints the Committee that the Cowles for the Mortgaged Countries of Seven Maganams, and Mannamungulum expiring the 31st July last, He has made the necessary Enquiries in order to get the most advantagious offers for the new Cowles, and that at length Mahomed Ayar Cawn had offered nineteen thousand (19000) Pagodas for one year's Rent of the Seven Maganums, and thirteen thousand (13,000) Pag^s for one year's Rent of Manamangulum, which, altho' one thousand Pagodas less for each Cowle than before, are nevertheless the President represents the best Offers that can be got, and he desires the Opinion of the Committee whether they should be accepted.

Agreed that the said offers be accepted.

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[29TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, SEPTEMBER 1756.*——

Resolv'd that Mr. Manningham be desir'd to attend the Committee tomorrow morning, that the Proceedings and Resolutions relative to the Bengal Expedition may be communicated to him, and that we may learn from him the more Particular Informations to which we are refer'd by the Gentlemen at Fulta.

GEORGE PIGOT.
ROBERT CLIVE.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.
ROBT PALK.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

THURSDAY THE 30TH. SEPTR.

GEORGE PIGOT ESQR. GOVERNOUR PRESIDENT
ROBERT CLIVE — STRINGER LAWRENCE
HENRY POWNEY — ROBERT ORME
WILLIAM PERCEVAL — ROBERT PALK.

The President acquaints the Committee that Mr. Manningham will attend them at two in the Afternoon.

Letters from Captain Caillaud Read, as follow.

TO THE HONBLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQR.
PRESIDENT & GOVR &C. GENTLEMEN
OF THE COMMITTEE AT MADRAS.

No. 37. Honble Sir & Sirs

I have the honour to inform you that by the Advices lately receiv'd from Tanjour, every thing is preparing after the King's feast is over, for Monagee to March; in order to recover the Countries in dispute from Tondaman. I fear any Representations this time will be thrown away; nor do I think they will pay any regard even to a positive order from the Nabob to desist from their Pretensions. So circumstanced, whether it might not be best to feign Ignorance of their designs, and let the Parties decide it as they can between themselves; this I humbly offer to your considerations, and wait for your orders and directions. The feast will be over by the beginning of the next Month.

Affairs towards Madura remain in the same situation as when I had the honour of writing last. Both Parties remaining quiet, and waiting for yours, and the Nabob's Decisions. Mahofoz Cawn I hear had wrote to Hydernaig to come to his assistance; the answer he received, was that he could do nothing of the kind without orders from his Master, the King of Mysore; and that he had wrote accordingly to him to know his pleasure.

The Nabob has sent his orders to the Killedar for the Signing with me the Monthly Accounts, which I shall carefully observe.

I remain with great respect
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedient and most
Humble Servant

JOHN CAILLAUD.

Tritchenopoly
18th Septr. 1756.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, SEPTEMBER 1756.*—— [30TH.]

To the Honble George Pigot Esqr.
President & Govr. &ca. Gentlemen
of the Committee at Madras.

Honble Sir & Sirs No. 38

My last letter was dated on the 18th Instant No. 37 and late the 19th at night I was honoured with yours of the 8th Instant No. 39. with the several accompanying Copies. Agreeable to the Instructions contained therein, and the Liberty you have been pleased to honour me with, of pursuing such Methods as to the best of my judgement might appear of service towards settling this affair, I have taken the following steps, which I hope may be approved of.

To Morrow Morning the Dubash Narrain sets out for Madura. The fidelity of his services for some years, his Capacity, and the Knowledge he has in particular of this affair, made me think him the properest person I could employ: Besides that, his Character as a servant to the Honble Company must have some weight in the Country. I have been able on this occasion to spare him from the necessary business of his Station; Because I have had for some time past in my Service, A person who can manage in his absence, and whose Honesty and Knowledge I can trust. His name is Brower; Not unknown by Character to Colonel Lawrence, and Mr. Maunsell especially; under whom he served long, and faithfully.

The particular Instructions I have given to Narrain I need not trouble you with; But in General this he is strictly confined to; "Not to exceed the Sum which you have thought proper to Grant towards the settling this affair." That first he is to insist upon the Company's Seapoys marching into Madura; and then Mahofoz Cawn and his Jemidars to come here and receive the sum agreed on. The only allowance of favour he can make in these first offers, is, that half the money shall be paid there, when the Company's Seapoys march into the Fort; the remaining half to be paid here to Mahofoz Cawn and his Troops, when the Proper Receipts and Acknowledgements are given.

I have desired him also to see the Nellour, and to communicate to him his instructions, and to take his advice in the Management of the Affair. To Moodillee I have sent orders to come and meet him at the Camp of Usoof Cawn; that together proper measures may be concerted for raising the necessary sums, when there may be occasion to make any Payments.

As Barkatoola by his money and interest, is the only person able to do any mischief, and whom we may have most cause to apprehend. I have recommended a strict watch over his Motions; And as I suppose the orders for his Removal which you have desired from the Nabob will be agreed to; I have given such particular directions on that head, that he shall find himself under the necessity of obeying the Orders he may receive, and not leave him Master of his Actions so far, as to create any new troubles in that Country.

I have furnished Narrain, with all the necessary letters to Mahofoz Cawn, Barkatoola, the Jemidars; as also Moodillee and Usoof Cawn. Copies of which as not immediately of consequence, I have not sent; and hope you will be pleas'd to excuse; the rather also, as I was impatient first to acquaint you how I had proceeded, and that nothing might retard Narrain's departure, which I was anxious about. He knows how necessary, and agreable it will be, to have this affair soon determined, and I dare promise he will use his utmost diligence, and that I shall have the pleasure of soon writing his Success.

Permit me, Gentlemen, before I conclude this Letter, to return my humblest and sincerest thanks for the high Trust and Confidence you have been pleas'd to repose in me. I dare in return for such honour, plead my Zeal, and the unwearied

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[30th]. ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, SEPTEMBER 1756.*——

application with which ever I shall pursue my duty towards my Honourable Employers. Permit me also to assure you that my greatest ambition, and satisfaction in life, is to merit the approbation of my Superiours.

I remain most Respectfully and Gratefully
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedt and faithfull
Servant

Trichenopoly,
21st Septr 1756.

JOHN CAILLAUD.

The present Multiplicity of more important Business rendering it necessary for us to avoid as much as possible engaging in any fresh dispute, it is Resolved to order Captain Caillaud not to interfere in what may pass between the King of Tanjour and Tondaman, and in case Application should be made to him either Party, then to transmit such application to us and wait our Answer.

The Committee approve of the Steps taken by Captain Caillaud towards the Accommodation of the Disturbances at Madura, in consequence of our Orders of the 8th.

Letter this Instant receiv'd from Admiral Watson opened and Read, as follows.

To THE PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS
OF THE SECRET COMMITTEE OF
FORT St GEORGE.

Gentlemen

In consequence of your Representations to me yesterday, I have assembled a Council of War, who are of Opinion no answer can be made with Propriety 'till you declare who you deem to be the Company's Representatives at Bengal. I therefore desire you will please to send an answer immediately as the Council are waiting.

I am Gentlemen
Your most Obedient humble Servt

Fort St. George
30th Septr. 1756.

CHARLES WATSON.

As Mr. Watson in Committee yesterday recommended the Expedition should be conducted on the same footing as that to Gheria, it is imagined that the Tendency of the Enquiry in his above Letter must be to learn whether it is design'd that he himself shall be one of the Representatives in the same manner as he was joined in the Commission at Gheria. The Committee therefore think it sufficient to return him for answer that only Company's Servants can be esteemed their Representatives. A Letter was immediately wrote, signed, and sent to Mr. Watson as follows.

To CHARLES WATSON Esqr.
REAR ADMIRAL OF THE RED, AND Comr.
IN CHIEF OF HIS MAJESTY'S SQUADRON IN INDIA.

Sir

The Servants of the Company must doubtless, and can alone represent their Masters in Bengal on all occasions relating to their Affairs; and it is to the Representations of these Servants that we shall at your Departure do ourselves the honour to desire the same attention from you that you have hitherto been pleased to shew to those made by ourselves.

We are Sir
Your most Obedt. humble Servants

Fort St. George
30th Septr. 1756.

GEORGE PIGOT &ca COMMITTEE.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, SEPTEMBER 1756.*—— [30TH.]

Letter from Mr. Wynch Read, advising that he has sent the two Brass Six Pounder field Pieces that were at Fort St David, and a Petard from Devecotah, by his Majesty's Ship the Bridgewater, according [*sic*] the Directions received from the President.

After 12 O'Clock receiv'd another Letter from Mr. Watson as follows

To the President and Members of the
Secret Committee of Fort St. George.

Gentlemen

I am sorry to trouble you again for what I thought was so plainly asked before. That the Servants of the Company must represent their Masters Affairs in Bengal, I make no doubt; but since you oblige me to be so very explicit, I must desire you will let me know the names of those Servants, whose Representations you will, at my departure, desire me to attend to.

I am Gentn
Your most Obedient humble
Servant
Charles Watson.

Fort St. George
30th Septr. 1756.

Agreed to defer returning any further answer to Mr Watson untill we have confer'd with Mr. Manningham, as it is not impossible but his Representations may cause some Change in our former Resolution concerning the Representatives in Bengal.

The Committee being met at two in the Afternoon and Mr Manningham being likewise present.

The whole Proceedings of the Council and Committee relative to the Late Misfortune at Bengal were Read. Mr. Manningham, in the Course of this Reading made many Observations in Vindication of the President and Council of Fort William from the Misconduct they are charged with in the several Letters from Messrs. Watts and Collett: Holwell &c[a] particularly on the Subject of Mr. Drake's giving Protection to the Nabobs Tenants, of his Ill-treating the Nabob's Messenger, and his not endeavouring to accommodate Affairs before they were carried to too great a Length.

But as it may be impossible for Mr. Manningham to recollect at once all the Circumstances he may have to offer in Justification of the Gentlemen in the late administration at Calcutta, and as the Committee will not besides pretend to be judges of their Conduct it is Agreed that a Copy of all the Advices receiv'd from Bengall, and of our Proceedings thereupon be deliver'd to Mr. Manningham that he may have an Opportunity of committing his Observations to writing in a more explicit manner for the Information of the Hoñble the Court of Directors, to whome alone the Determination belongs.

More especially on the Perusal of the Consultation of 21st September last whereby Messrs. Clive, Smith and Walsh are appointed a Deputation for the General Conduct of the Expedition, to be instructed to receive a Plan of Operations from the Gentlemen of the Council of Bengal for a Guide to their Correspondence with the Nabob, and yet empowered to act contrary to that Plan if they think necessary, Mr Manningham begs leave to offer his thoughts to the Committee.

First that this Power to be lodged in the Deputies totally destroys all the Authority of the President and Council of Fort William.

Secondly that this Board are not empowered to give a Commission which shall destroy the Authority vested by the Company in the President and Council of Fort William, which Authority he thinks does and ought to subsist notwithstanding the Loss of the Place, and that he believes there is an act of Parliament which would set this Point clear.

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[30th ·] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, SEPTEMBER 1756.*——

Thirdly that as it is not in the power of this Board to destroy the Authority of the President and Council of Fort William so neither does he think it can be beneficial to the Company's Affairs; For that

Fourthly it is to be imagined the Gentlemen who have so long resided in Bengal must be best acquainted with the Company's Interests in that Province with the temper of the People, and the Views of the Different Rajahs &c[a] and for that reason best qualified for the Management of whatever may be undertaken there.

Fifthly the Destroying the Authority of the President and Council of Bengal would lessen them so much in the opinion of the Company's Servants, and of all the Natives, that they would be rendered absolutely incapabable [*sic*] of ever again transacting the Company's Affairs in their Different Stations; for which Reason

Sixthly It is probable that many of the Company's Servants would in such case chuse to quit and go to Europe in order to lay their case before the Court of Directors, by which means the Company's Affairs might be distressed for want of Servants.

The Committee pointed out to M[r] Manningham that the Great Inducement of the Council to nominate Deputies for the Conduct of the Expedition, was as appears by the Minutes of the said Consultation of 21st September, the Absolute Necessity of reserving to themselves the Power of recalling a Part of the Troops intended to be sent to Bengal, in case of a War with France; leaving only a Sufficient Force for the Defence of Calcutta, whereas the Gentlemen of Bengal, was the power over the Troops to be lodged in them, might determine that the Carrying on the War in Bengal, in case a full Satisfaction had not before been obtained from the Nabob, was as necessary to the Company's Welfare as the Defence of this Coast, and on that Consideration they might resolve not to return us any of the Troops.

M[r]. Manningham thereupon assures the Committee that he is persuaded the Gentlemen of Bengal will have no Objection to the leaving the whole Military Authority with Colonel Clive, that they will pay the greatest attention to all that he may recommend during the Course of the Expedition and a particular Regard to whatever may be represented to them from this Board. Finally M[r]· Manningham desires that the Resolution of the 21st September may be reconsidered.

As M[r]· Manningham can have but one Voice in the Council of Bengal, his Assurances cannot be deemed decisive, but in conformity to his Request, it is Agreed to take under Deliberation the Question whether the Resolution of the 21st Septem[r] relating to the Nomination of Deputies for the Conduct of the Bengal Expedition should be alter'd or not; and after a Long Debate in which on one Side were urged the Reasons entered in the Minutes of Consultation of 21st September, on the other the Arguments offered by M[r]· Manningham; so many Inconveniences and Objections appear'd on both sides, that the Committee could not at this Meeting decide upon the Question in debate, and having sat 'till nine at Night It was Resolved to defer the Determination untill to Morrow Morning.

GEORGE PIGOT.
ROBERT CLIVE.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.
ROB[T]. PALK.

Sent the following Letter to Captain Caillaud pursuant to the Resolution made yesterday.

To CAPTAIN JOHN CAILLAUD.

No. 41. Sir

We have before us your Letters N° 37 & 38 dated 18th & 21st September.

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——*FORT S^T. GEORGE, SEPTEMBER 1756.*—— [30TH.]

We would have you take no Notice of what may pass between the King of Tanjour and Tondaman, but if Application should be made to you by either Party, transmit such application to us and return for answer that you wait for orders from hence.

We approve of the Steps you have taken towards the fulfilling our Intentions concerning the disturbance at Madura, and we hope your Endeavours will be attended with Success.

We are Sir

Your most Obedient Servants

Fort St George

1st Octr 1756.

GEORGE PIGOT &^CA COMMITTEE.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

GEORGE PIGOT ESQ^R GOVERNOUR PRESIDENT. FRIDAY
ROBERT CLIVE STRINGER LAWRENCE. THE 1st
HENRY POWNEY ROBERT ORME. [OCTOBER].
WILLIAM PERCEVAL ROBERT PALK.

The Committee having fully considered and maturely weighed the Advantages and Inconveniencies of the Resolution of 21st September for appointing Deputies from hence to conduct the Intended Expedition; and the Benefits of maintaining a Harmony and Good Understanding with the Gentlemen of Bengal being urged in addition to the Arguments and Assurances offered yesterday by Mr Manningham, the Question is now put whether the said Resolution shall be alter'd or not, and Resolv'd by the Majority that it be altered, and that Deputies, as therein mentioned, be not sent from hence.

Messrs Clive and Orme abide by the opinion of the 21st September, and desire that their reasons for dissenting to the present Resolution may be entered on these Minutes as follow.

Arguments offered by Mr Orme on the Subject of the Present Question, in which Argument Mr Clive declares he concurs.

Since Mr Manningham's arrival what has happened to alter the Resolution of the 21st September?

Mr Manningham says much to exculpate the Gentlemen of Calcutta, from the two points which are principally esteemed the causes of the Loss of that Place.

1st. The Protection of the Nabob's Tenants.

2^d. The not endeavouring to pacify him, when incensed.

But an Inquisition of this kind is in my opinion not of the Resort of this Board. It belongs to our Masters, the East India Company.

More M^r. Manningham says, that the Resolutions of the Council held by us Septr. 21st take away all Power from the Gentlemen at Fulta. That they are absolutely Governour and Council and are so by act of Parliament, that for his own particular he shall quit the Service. That he believes the rest of the Gentlemen, now of the Council, will do so too, as Subordination and all Good Government will be destroyed and no more Respect be paid to them.

What weight is this to have with us?

Shall the Resolutions of the Council of the 21st Septr. be changed or no?

I cannot see any Reason for altering the Resolutions of the 21st Septr. A Particular tenderness to avoid a Determination on the Authority of the Gentlemen of Calcutta, has been exerted. The Expedient of sending Deputies to give orders to the Military and to manage that part of the Company's Property which shall be

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[1st] ——*FORT St. GEORGE, OCTOBER 1756.*——

sent from this Settlement to Bengall, was thought by me a Mean between two Extremes. The one Extreme, that of declaring the Authority of the Gentlemen of Bengal, absolutely Null and Void; The other Extreme, that of putting so large a force and so large a part of the Company's Property entirely under the Disposal of those Gentlemen. It is with great pain that I now find myself obliged to declare that when the Majority of this board were of opinion that the Authority of the Gentlemen at Bengall was as valid as ever, I, with Colⁿ. Clive thought that opinion liable to Objections and it is not minuted that that opinion was unanimous but that the majority were of that Opinion. I have never met with the Particular Act of Parliament refer'd to by Mr. Manningham and wait with impatience to see it. But I think I can venture to say that I know, had the Town and Garrison of Calcutta belonged to a Prince instead of the East India Company, the Govr. from whom it had been taken, could never have reassumed his Authority there untill the pleasure of his Prince had been known. And this Paralell for want of the Act of Parliament is all I have to judge by, and it influences my opinion so strongly, tho' perhaps Erroneously, that were I in the Case of the Gentlemen of Bengal, I would sooner reassume my lost Authority in Calcutta from the Donation of the Presidency of Madras, than I would assert it from my own authority; as in the one case I should proceed to act from the best authority I could get and those who invested me with it would be responsible for the Consequences 'till the pleasure of my Masters was known; whereas taking this authority as an indisputable Right, 'till that can be proved without Contradiction, would subject me if it should not be proved at all, to immense difficulties. These Reasons I beg leave to add to those which are fully explained in the Consultation of the 21st Septr. as determining me to think there is no occasion to alter the Plan there digested. As to the Authority of the Chiefs of Calcutta diminished by this Deputation as urged by Mr. Manningham, it concerns me extremely that it should be so. But in such complicated cases as these, many Inconveniences must arise, and the Authority of those Gentlemen will never in my opinion be properly confirmed, 'till it is by the Orders of our Honble Masters from Europe.

Signed ROBERT CLIVE.
" ROBERT ORME.

Then the Second Question was put; who are to be esteemed the proper Representatives of the Company in Bengal, and under whose Direction is the Intended Expedition to be carried on.

Whereupon it was Resolv'd that Roger Drake Esqr. Colonel Lawrence, when present; Mr. Watts, Mr. Manningham and Mr. Becher, the Select Committee appointed for that Presidency, joined to Colonel Clive, are to be esteemed the Proper Representatives of the Company at Bengal. That they be desired to form and deliver to Colonel Clive a Plan for the Conduct of such Treaty as they shall recommend to be made for the best Advantage of the Company with the Nabob of Bengal; and also a Plan of Such Military Operations as they would recommend to be carried on against the Nabob untill he shall consent to such Terms as the Treaty may be concluded on.

But as the Committee think they could not answer putting the Company to the Expence of fitting out this Armament without taking at the same time all Possible Precautions to secure to them Equivolent Advantages, not merely the Retaking of Calcutta but the Re-establishment of their Several former settlements with all the Priviledges granted them by the Great Mogul; And as the Committee have an entire confidence in Colonel Clive's Abilities and that he will exert his Utmost Endeavours to carry this our design into full Execution, whereas it might not impossibly meet with Interruptions or Delays from Divisions of opinion among the Bengal Gentlemen, if it depended totally on them.

Therefore it is Agreed that Colonel Clive be futher instructed to weigh and consider well the Plans he shall receive from the beforementioned Select Committee of Bengal, and in case he shall judge any part of them not to tend to the most Speedy

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———*FORT ST. GEORGE, OCTOBER 1756.*——— [1st.]

and Efficacious Method of obtaining the hop'd for advantages to the Company, then to give his best advice on the Subject to those Gentlemen, and in case their Opinions should still differ, then finally to pursue those Measures which he shall judge to be most for the Company's benefit, transmitting to us in a very explicit Manner his Reasons for such a Proceeding, which reasons shall be refer'd to the Court of Directors.

Thus the Committee are of opinion they have remov'd so far as in them lies all Obstacles to the Compleat Execution of their Intentions in sending this Armament to Bengal; Supposeing that a War is not declared with France; for upon the first news of such a Declaration, we shall hold it absolutely necessary to recall all the Troops to this Coast, except so many as will be necessary for the immediate Defence of Calcutta, esteeming the certain advantages of the Settlements and Inland Possessions, of the Company on this Coast to be more worthy of Attention than the uncertain hopes of regaining their Settlements in Bengall.

Therefore the Committee think it necessary to furnish Colonel Clive with Independent Powers on this head also, that in case upon the news of a War or other Emergency it should be found necessary to recal a part of the Troops for the Defence of this Coast, and the Select Committee at Bengal should not think proper to return them upon our Representation then that Colonel Clive do follow the orders of this Committee and proceed hither with such Part of the Troops as shall be necessary leaving only as many as may be requisite for the Defence of Calcutta.

Messrs. Clive and Orme being asked whether they assent to the Resolutions made upon the Second Question, deliver in the following answer.

In Answer to this question we beg leave to refer to the 4th Article of the Plan of Instructions intended to be delivered to the Deputies then resolv'd to be sent as Enter'd in the Consultations of the Council held September 21st which says

"That the Deputies be directed to re-establish the Gentlemen of Bengall in "Calcutta as soon as Colonel Clive's Success shall render it *proper*, and that they do "when the place is in a sufficient state of Security, put those Gentlemen in possession "of all such part of the Company's Effects as shall remain with them."

By this Resolution which Colonel Clive and M^{r}. Orme then agreed to with the rest of the Council, it appears that they had no objection to entrusting the Gentlemen of Calcutta, after the Service of the Deputies to be sent was at an end.

It is now determined that the Deputies shall not go; therefore Messrs. Clive and Orme think as they did the 21st Septr. that in lieu of Deputies the Gentlemen of Bengal are to be impowered; and therefore as the Resolution of 21st Septr. is laid aside, declare that they can think of no better Expedient than that now resolved by the Majority of this Board.

At the same time they beg leave to recommend to the serious consideration of the Board, that the Necessary Measures to be taken that the Gentlemen of Bengal may enter into our Sentiments on the Seclusion of Plunder &c^{a} to the Company's Use.

ROBERT CLIVE. ROBERT ORME.

An Answer to M^{r}. Watson's Letter of the 30th Septr. requireing the names of the Persons whom we esteem to be the Proper Representatives of the Company in Bengal, is now wrote conformably to the foregoing Resolution, and immediately sent to him as follows.

To CHARLES WATSON ESQ^{R}.
REAR ADMIRAL OF THE RED & COM^{R}.
IN CHIEF OF HIS MAJESTY'S SQUADRON IN INDIA.

Sir

Our time was taken Up 'till 9 O'Clock last night in laying before M^{r}. Manningham, one of the Council of Bengal, the whole Proceedings relating to the Intended Expedition. This morning the duty of the President and most of the Members of this Committee call'd them to attend the Quarter Sessions, which has

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[1st.] —— *FORT ST. GEORGE, OCTOBER 1756* ——

debar'd us the pleasure of acquainting you a few Hours sooner that we deem Roger Drake Esqr., Colonel Lawrence, Mr. Watts, Mr. Manningham and Mr. Becher or any part of them, joined to Colonel Clive, to be the Proper Representatives of the Company in Bengal, and to whom we shall request you to pay the same attention as you have hitherto done to us.

We are Sir
Your most Obedient humble
Servants
GEORGE PIGOT &c^{a} COMMITTEE.

Fort St. George
1st. Octr. 1756.

GEORGE PIGOT.
ROBERT CLIVE.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.
ROBT. PALK.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

MONDAY THE 4TH:

GEORGE PIGOT ESQR. GOVERNOUR PRESIDENT
ROBERT CLIVE STRINGER LAWRENCE
HENRY POWNEY ROBERT ORME
WILLIAM PERCEVAL ROBERT PALK.

The following Letter from Rear Admiral Watson with the Proceedings of the Council of War Read.

TO THE PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS
OF THE SECRET COMMITTEE AT
FORT ST. GEORGE.

Gentlemen

I yesterday afternoon received your Letter of the 1st Instant acquainting me with the occasion that debarr'd you the pleasure of informing me the day before, who you deemed to be the Company's Proper Representatives in Bengal. I am sorry you were so closely engaged with Mr. Manningham as to prevent your Employing a few minutes, which would have been sufficient to have wrote the names of those Gentlemen it was necessary for me to know.

I have since assembled again the Council of War, whose Opinions (for your Satisfaction) I herewith inclose you a Copy.

The Proposal made to me Relative to the holding Councils of War, and who should Preside thereat, did not require to be laid before a Council of War to be answered; there being but one practice ever observed among all Officers in his Majesty's Service, in the execution of any duty wherein the Sea and Land Are to Co-operate.

So Soon as you are pleased to let me know the number of Men you propose sending on the Expedition, I shall make a Distribution accordingly, and give the necessary orders for their being received; and I must desire you will inform me at the same time how many Ships you are determined shall go with me, and that you will give their Captains orders to put themselves under my Command.

I am Gentlemen
Your most Obedient humble
Servant
CHARLES WATSON.

Fort St. George
2nd Octr. 1756.

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--- *FORT ST. GEORGE, OCTOBER 1756.*——— [4TH]

At a Council of War held at Fort St. George 3d Septr 1756.

Present

CHARLES WATSON ESQ^{R}. REAR ADMIRAL OF THE RED &C^{A}. PRESIDENT
GEORGE POCOCK ESQ^{R}. REAR ADMIRAL OF THE WHITE
CAPTAIN THO^{S}. LATHAM CAPT^{N} WILL^{M} MARTIN
CAPTAIN HENRY SPEKE CAPT^{N} JOHN HARRISON
CAPTAIN HENRY SMITH.

"The undermentioned Representations being made by the President and Members of the Secret Committee of Fort St. George to Rear Admiral Watson at a Committee held the 29th September 1756, were Read to the Council, and their Opinion desired thereon."

Representations made to Mr Watson.

1st. "As it may be supposed that one or more of the Men of War will be sent before Calcutta, and the Moors driven out by her Cannon; it is requested of Mr. Watson that he will Land Colonel Clive with a Company's, or a part of them, to take Possession again of that Settlement, and whatever may be found within the Company's Limits, as usually understood between Perrin's Garden and Surman's Garden, for the sole benefit of the Company; which Request, it is hoped will be thought Reasonable, as the Company have suffered an immense Loss, and are to be at the whole Expence of the Expedition."

2d. "Should it be judged proper by the Company's Representatives, after the taking of Calcutta, to request the assistance of the Squadron to attack Hughley, or any other Moors Town, or to make Reprizals in the River upon Moors Vessels, it is hoped it will not be thought unreasonable to appoint Commissaries on both sides to dispose of the Prizes that may be so taken; their Produce to be deposited untill it shall be determined by his Majesty in what manner it should be distributed. A Gratuity to be given for the present at the discretion of the Council of War to the Petty Officers and Private Men, and to be deducted out of the Portion which may be allotted them.

The Council proceeded to examine the beforementioned Representations, and are of Opinion no answer can be made till the President and Members of the Secret Committee of Fort St. George declare who they deem to be the Company's Representatives in Bengal. Accordingly a Letter was immediately sent from the President of the Council of War, to the President and Members of the Secret Committee for that purpose, to which the following Answer was returned.

Sir

"The Servants of the Company must doubtless and can alone represent their "Masters in Bengal on all occasions relating to their affairs, and it is to the Representa- "tions of these Servants that we shall at your departure do ourselves the honour to "desire the same attention from you, that you have hitherto been pleas'd to shew to "those made by ourselves.

We are Sir
Your most Obed^{t}. humble Servants
GEORGE PIGOT &C^{a}. COMMITTEE.

Fort St. George
30th Sep^{tr}. 1756.

To CHARLES WATSON ESQ^{r}. &C^{a}. &C^{a}.

This Letter not being thought Satisfactory, another Letter was wrote by the President of the Council of War, to desire the names of the Company's Representatives, and then the Council adjourned.

No answer being returned to this Letter in the Space of twenty four hours, the President wrote a third Letter, and on the 2d Octr the Council assembled again, when the following Letter was lain before them.

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[47m.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, OCTOBER 1756.*——

Sir

"Our time was taken up 'till nine OClock last night in laying before "Mr Manningham, one of the Council of Bengal, the whole Proceedings relating "to the Intended Expedition; This morning the duty of the President and most "of the Members of the Committee called them to attend the Quarter Sessions, "which has debarr'd us the pleasure of acquainting you a few hours sooner, that "we deem Roger Drake Esqr, Colonel Lawrence, Mr. Watts, Mr. Manningham and "Mr. Becher, or any part of them joined to Colonel Clive to be the Proper Repres- "entatives of the Company in Bengal, and to whom we shall request you to pay "the same attention as you have hitherto done to us."

We are Sir
Your most Obedient humble
Servts.

Fort St George
1st Oct. 1756.

GEORGE PIGOT &ca COMMITTEE.

To CHARLES WATSON Esq. &ca &ca.

The Council being satisfied with the above answer, proceeded to the Examination of the beforemention'd Representations; and are of Opinion, That as the Proposition is stated Vizt. "That everything within the Company's Limits be "delivered up to Colonel Clive for the sole benefit of the Company. The Admiral "cannot in Justice and Equity give his consent to the depriving of so many Private People of their Property as dwell within the said Limits, under Colour of indemnifying the Company for Losses, they are but equal sharers in with these very private people. Neither do they see the Propriety of delivering the place to any but the Company's Representatives.

Upon the whole, the Council are of Opinion that this Proposition as it is put, cannot be consented to; but they are of opinion that the Admiral may consent to deliver Calcutta to the Company's Representatives, so as that they are put in possession of everything they have a Legal claim to, and Private People be not thereby excluded from what they have an equal Right to be indulg'd in, Vizt. the Re-possession of their Property, which we consent to give as far as our Rights extend.

With respect to the second Representation. "That of depositing in the hands "of Commissaries what may be taken from the Enemy, either at Hughley or any "other Moors Town, or in the River, 'till his Majesty's pleasure be known, only "reserving to a Council of War the giving a part as a Gratuity to the Petty Officers "and Private Men." They are of opinion the Admiral ought not to acquiesce to this Proposition, as they conceive it might slacken the Ardour and good Inclinations they would otherwise have to the Expedition, and thereby incur the Risque of a disgrace to his Majesty's Arms, and be of the greatest detriment to the Service of the Company; it being a known fact to every Seaman who either served in, or has heard anything of, last war, that even in cases of Reprizals the Indulgence of the Parliament has given half to the Captors. And indeed the Council cannot help expressing their Surprize to see a Proposition made to the Admiral on any other Foundation, when they are well acquainted that that, made to Colo. Adlercron with respect to the Regiment, was agreeable to this known determination of Parliament.

It is therefore the Opinion of the Council, that for the Encouragement of the Officers, Seamen & Soldiers, that one half only of what may be taken from the

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——*FORT St. GEORGE, OCTOBER 1756.*—— [4th]

Enemy be deposited for his Majesty's pleasure, the other to be divided amongst the Captors. But we of this Council do consent that the whole of what we may have a claim to, be likewise deposited 'till his Majesty's Pleasure be known. Given under our hands at Fort St. George this 2d of October 1756.

CHARLES WATSON

GEORGE POCOCK. THOMAS LATHAM.
WILLM. MARTIN. HENRY SPEKE.
JOHN HARRISON. HENRY SMITH.

(A Copy)

Consideration being had upon the foregoing Proceedings of the Council of War, the Committee are of Opinion that the Resolution of the Council upon the first Article of our Representations regarding the Delivery up of Calcutta, with the Effects that may be found therein, to the Company's Representatives, if not sufficiently explicit as neither that, nor Mr. Watson's Letter contains any positive assurance that the Company's Settlement with their Effects shall be delivered up as soon as taken to the Company's Representatives. On the contrary, the Expressions of the Council upon this article seem to convey a doubt whether they (the Council) have a Right to restore them unsubjected to future Claims. The Committee are of Opinion that an Explanation upon this Article should be requir'd from Mr. Watson previous to all other Proceedings, as it would become a matter of fresh debate whether we should be justified in carrying on the Expedition under the least uncertainty as to the Delivery to the Company of all their Settlements and Effects which may be re-taken. Accordingly the following Letter was immediately wrote and sent to Admiral Watson.

To CHARLES WATSON Esqr. REAR ADMIRAL OF THE RED
AND COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF HIS MAJESTY'S
SQUADRON IN INDIA.

Sir

We have now under consideration the Minutes of the Council of War held by you the 30th Septr. and 2d October. It is there said that the Council are of Opinion that the Admiral *may* consent to deliver Calcutta to the Company's Representatives so as that they are put in possession of everything they have a Legal Claim to, and Private People be not thereby excluded from what they have an Equal Right to be indulg'd in. Vizt. the Re possession of their Property which we consent to give as far as our Rights extend.

Our duty to our Masters obliges us to determine that if Calcutta is Re-taken by Operations recommended by us, and at an immense expence to the Company, the whole of their Property found in Calcutta & recover'd by this Enterprize be restored to them. Now the Expressions of your Council of War carry a Meaning with them to us, as if it was thought that you had not a Right to give up this Property unsubjected to future Claims upon the Company for the Services his Majesty's Squadron may render in the Re-capture of it.

We request the favour of an Explanation of your Opinion upon the Article.

We are Sir
Your most Obedient humble
Servants
GEORGE PIGOT &c. COMMITTEE.

Fort St. George
4th Octr 1756.

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[4th.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, OCTOBER 1756.*——

To which the following Answer was presently received.

To the President and Members
of the Secret Committee of
Fort St. George.

Gentlemen

I have receiv'd your Letter of this day's date, and must beg leave to be excus'd from giving my Opinion in the matter you request, 'till I have summon'd a Council of War, which I shall immediately do ; and will give you an answer as soon after as possible.

I am Gentlemen
Your most Obedient humble
Servant

Fort St. George
4th Oct. 1756.

Charles Watson.

The Committee then proceeded to the Consideration of the Opinion of the Council of War upon our Second Representation regarding the Depositing all Reprizals that might be made upon the Moors untill his Majesty's pleasure should be known concerning the Distribution. The Council of War consent

That one half be deposited for his Majesty's pleasure.

That the other half be divided amongst the Captors; but the Admirals and Captains consent that their Shares be likewise deposited for his Majesty's pleasure.

The Committee out of a desire to maintain a good Harmony and prevent further difficulties or Altercation, Resolve to acquiesce in this Disposition of the Council of War, although their Arguments appear to be subject to some Remarks which it may not be improper to insert here for the Observation of our Hoñble Masters as they will have an Application to make on this Subject in England.

First that the Council's principal objection (the Risque of Slackening the Ardor of the Petty Officers and Private Men) was provided against by assigning a Gratuity at the Discretion of a Council of War, to be deducted out of the Portion which should be allotted them by his Majesty.

Secondly that the only Instance we know of Reprizals allotted by Act of Parliament was in the case of the St. Joseph and St. Jago, two Spanish Ships, stopp'd by his Majesty's Ships before the Declaration of the Last War with Spain. The Parliament decreed one half to the Suffering Merchants, the other half to the Captors. But there is a wide difference between that Case and the Case now in question, There, the Suffering Merchants were at no Charge in making the Reprizals and yet a half was decreed them. Here, the East India Company are at the whole charge of the Expedition and yet their Right is left in Suspence, whilst a half is decreed to the Captors, the Admirals and Captains consenting only in their private Characters that their Share of that half be deposited for his Majesty's pleasure.

And Thirdly as the Case of the St. Joseph & St. Jago was refered to the Determination of Parliament the Committee think that the Present Case, as it is of a nature entirely new, might reasonably be refer'd to the same Determination or to his Majesty's Pleasure.

The Committee having notwithstanding acquiesc'd to this Opinion of the Council of War, Colonel Clive represents that he thinks it would be hurtful to the Service to make Distinctions between the Land and Sea Forces, and that the share of the Officers and Soldiers should be also distributed, he consenting for himself and such of the Officers as shall be entitled to share with the Captains of the Men of War, that their Share shall be deposited also.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, OCTOBER 1756.*—— [4TH.]

The Committee think this a very reasonable proposition and unanimously give their Concurrence.

GEORGE PIGOT.
ROBERT CLIVE.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.
ROBT. PALK.

Late in the Evening received the following Letter from Admiral Watson.

TO THE PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS
OF THE SECRET COMMITTEE OF
FORT ST. GEORGE.

Gentlemen

I have consulted the Members who compos'd the Council of War, summoned on the Representations you made to me the 29th Sept. and they all agree, the meaning of the sentence you want to have explain'd, cannot be more fully expressed than is already done in the Copy of the Council of War you have before you. There, you will find a general consent from every Member to give up to the Company any right he may have in the re-taking Calcutta and you may depend the expressions of the Council of War most certainly mean to give up nothing more than their own, because they do not think their Power extends further.

Should I succeed in the Expedition to Bengall and retake Calcutta, I will then put it in possession of the Company's Representatives, and I do assure you, I will not lay any claim to what may be found there, neither will any of the Gentlemen of the Council, nor can I think any body under my Command will attempt it, seeing that Myself and the Members of the Council have given to the Company what may be their Rights, and for the same reason if any Persons should lay a Claim, I believe they would not succeed.

I am Gentlemen
Your most Obedient humble
Servant
CHARLES WATSON.

Fort St. George
4th Oct. 1756.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

GEORGE PIGOT ESQR.	GOVERNOUR PRESIDENT	TUESDAY THE 5TH.
ROBERT CLIVE	STRINGER LAWRENCE	
HENRY POWNEY	ROBERT ORME	
WILLIAM PERCEVAL	ROBERT PALK.	

The Committee having read and debated on the foregoing Letter from Admiral Watson containing his assurance that if Calcutta is retaken by him he will put it in Possession of the Company's Representatives, and that neither he nor any of the Gentlemen of the Council will lay any Claim to what may be found therein, The Question is put whether the Said Explanation, is sufficient, to determine the Board to carry on the Expedition.

Agreed unanimously in the Affirmative.

And then a second Question was put; Does any other Consideration occur, which ought to prevent the Prosecution of the Expedition to Bengal?

Agreed unanimously that no Such Consideration does occur, and Resolv'd that the Expedition be forwarded with the Utmost Dispatch.

The President acquaints the Board that he had agreed with the Master of the Boneta Ketch, a Country Vessel now laying in the Road, Burthen above one Hundred

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[5ᵗᵐ] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, OCTOBER 1756.*——

Tons, to carry down Gunpowder and Seapoys to Bengal, and that the Necessary Carpenters Work on board the Vessel was prepar'd. The terms are for three months from the 17th September at the Rate of three hundred and fifty (350) Pagodas ℔ Month. Which the Committee approve. As the Honble Company's Ships Marlborough and Walpole with the Boneta Ketch will carry in all only 700 Seapoys and 150 Lascars and as Colonel Clive represents that the Success of the Expedition will be much promoted by having a Large Number of Seapoys it is Agreed to endeavour to take up the Bombay Frigate, a Country Ship Burthen five or six hundred Tons now lying in the Road.

The Attorney for the Owners being sent for and an Offer made him to hire the Ship for the Trip only to Bengal, on her Arrival there to be deliver'd back to his order; He acquaints the Committee that he is by no means empower'd to deviate from the Destin'd Voyage of the Ship, his Orders being only to take out her Cargo here put on board Some Goods for Bombay, and then dispatch her to the Malabar Coast where a full Loading is lying ready for her; he therefore apprehends if the Destination of the Ship is alter'd, he may become liable for all damages that may accrue by means of Perishing Cargoes or Loss of Sales, as well as for all Risque of the Ship and the Respondentia that may have been lent on her first Intended Voyage which is a very considerable sum.

The Committee do not chuse to employ the Ship under so many Inconveniences but Resolve to make use of any future Conveyances that may offer, even after the Fleet is sailed, to send a further number of Seapoys. Agreed also to request of Admiral Watson to carry if possible a few Seapoys on board his Majesty's Ships, besides the Europeans.

A Return of the Troops to be employed on the Present Expedition is now laid before the Committee amounting, all Officers and Voluntiers included, to 593 Men, all Europeans. Ordered that the Return be entered after these Minutes, and as the Troops are ready to embark, Colonel Clive is desired to wait on Admiral Watson with the Said Return that he may distribute the Officers and Men on board the several Ships in such manner as he shall think best.

The following Letter was accordingly wrote and sent to Mr. Watson.

To CHARLES WATSON ESQR.
REAR ADMIRAL OF THE RED, & COMR.
IN CHIEF OF HIS MAJESTY'S SQUADRON IN INDIA.

Sir

We receiv'd last night your favour of the 4th Instant containing the Opinion of your Council of War upon our Letter of the same date with your assurance that if you retake Calcutta you will put it in possession of the Company's Representatives and that neither you nor any of the Gentlemen of the Council will lay any Claim to what may be found there. We are to return you our thanks for this promise, and to acquaint you that we acquiesce to the Resolutions of the Council upon the Second Article, relative to the Reprizals that may be made upon the Moors.

Colonel Clive will wait on you with a Return of the Troops intended to be sent on the Present Expedition. The number of Military and Artillery including all Officers will amount to about Six hundered [*sic*] which we beg the favour may be embarked on his Majesty's Ships, any day you think proper; and if you can possibly carry some seapoys besides it will be of great use to the Company's Affairs.

We have the honour to be
Sir
Your most Obedient humble Servts
GEORGE PIGOT &cª COMMITTEE.

Fort St. George
5th. Octr. 1756.

Agreed that Mr. Thomas Maunsell do proceed in quality of Commissary to the Troops (as appointed in Consultation 21st September.)

And that Mr. John Walsh go as Paymaster to the Expedition.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, OCTOBER 1756.*—— [5m.]

As it will be necessary that Colonel Clive be empower'd to appoint Courts Martial during the Present Expedition and that some person be also empower'd to officiate as Judge Advocate, the following Letter is now wrote to Colonel Adlercron on that Subject.

To JOHN ADLERCRON Esq^R.

COMR. IN CHIEF OF THE LAND FORCES IN INDIA.

Sir

As it will be necessary that the Commanding Officer of the Intended Expedition to Bengal be invested with an Authority of appointing Courts Martial over the Officers and Soldiers that may be employed on the Said Expedition, we are to request that you will be pleas'd to direct a Proper Power to Lieut Colonel Clive, and in case of accident to him, to such Officer as may succeed to the Command, and that you will also give a Warrant to Captain Edmund Maskelyne to officiate as Judge Advocate upon all such Courts Martial, with a Power to appoint a Deputy or Deputies if there should be occasion, or otherwise provide in such manner as you shall think best, against the Inconveniences which might otherwise be the Consequence if an accident happened to that Gentleman.

We are Sir

Fort S^t. George — Your most Obedient hble Servants

5th Octr. 1756. — GEORGE PIGOT &C^A. COMMITTEE.

Ordered that Letters to the Nabob of Bengal, to the Gentlemen appointed to be a Select Committee there, to Admiral Watson and to Major Kilpatrick, and Instructions for M^r. Walsh, be prepared conformably to our former Resolutions concerning them,

Also Instructions for Colonel Clive, and a Commission appointing him Commander in chief of the Troops to be employed on the Present Expedition.

Agreed likewise to advise the Select Committee at Bombay of the Large Draft made from our Troops for the Service of the Intended Expedition, renewing in the most strenuous manner our Request for a Reinforcement to be sent us from thence with all possible Dispatch, and desiring their Compliance with an Indent for Military Stores to replace in part of the Quantities we are now sending to Bengal.

GEORGE PIGOT.
ROBERT CLIVE.
STRINGER LAWRENCE.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.
ROB^T. PALK.

A Return of the Strength of the Troops Order'd for Bengall.

Fort St. George Octr. 8th 1756.	Lt. Colonel.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	Volunteers.	Serjeants.	Corporals.	Drummers.	Centinels	Bombardiers.	Gunners.	Matrosses.	Total.
Train of Artillery	0	0	1	5	0	0	5	5	3	0	21	21	48	10[illegible]
Grenadiers	0	1	0	1	2	2	8	6	4	94	0	0	0	11[illegible]
Capt. Maskelyne's	0	1	0	1	2	2	6	6	4	73	0	0	0	89
Capt. Gaupp's	0	1	0	2	1	2	4	6	4	77	0	0	0	91
Capt. Campbell's	0	1	0	1	2	1	6	6	4	73	0	0	0	89
Capt. Callendar's	0	1	0	0	3	1	6	6	4	73	0	0	0	89
Total ..	..	5	1	10	10	8	35	35	23	390	21	21	48	573

ROBERT CLIVE, LIEU^T. COL^N.

D. & P. 1756—81

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[5TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, OCTOBER 1756.*——

N.B.	2 Captains 2 Lieutenants	4	
	2 Serjeant Majors, 1 Qr. Master Serjt. 1 Corporal ...	4	
	& 12 Camp Colourmen not returned in the Body of the Return	12	20
			593

Mr. John Walsh Paymaster to the Bengal Expedition, having Occasion for a Supply of money to pay the Seapoys, it was Agreed to advance him forty thousand (40,000) Rupees, and Application was made accordingly to the President and Council.

6TH. Sent the following Letter to the Select Committee at Bombay, pursuant to the Resolutions of last Committee.

To the Hoñble Richard Bourchier Esqr.
President & Governor, and the Gentlemen
of the Select Committee at Bombay.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs.

The last letter we had the honor to write you, was dated 24th August. Your favor of the 3d of that month, reach'd us the 7th September.

The Europe Ships for this Side are all arriv'd, the latest of them, which left England the 18th March were join'd at Madagascar by two of the Ships bound for your Place. Those two, we hear came out the 28th April, and that War was not then declar'd, but a declaration hourly expected. The Letter we receiv'd from the Secret Committee by our last Ships, dated 13th February 1756, contradicts their former Advices of a French Fleet having sail'd for India, and says on the Contrary

"By later accounts, we have been given to understand that the French Com-
"pany have fitted out but an inconsiderable Number of Ships this Season, and that
"they do not intend to send any more until they know what turn Affairs will take
"as to Peace or War between the two Nations; which of the two accounts is to be
"depended on we cannot pretend to say, and although we are inclin'd to hope the
"latter is the truest, yet it behoves you, and we accordingly recommend it to you,
"to be constantly on your Guard, and prepar'd to ward off any Blow the French
"may aim upon our Settlements in India, which we have too much reason to believe
"they will attempt, whenever they have a Sufficient Force."

The Company's Settlements on this Coast, particularly Fort St. George & Fort St. David, by their Vicinity to Pondichery and our Northern Settlements to that of Metchlepatam are certainly the most liable to the attacks of the French; Nevertheless we look upon the Recovery of the Company's Establishments at Bengal, and the obtaining Reparation for the loss they have Suffer'd there to be Objects of so much Importance to the Welfare of the Company that we resolv'd to request of Admiral Watson to proceed thither with the whole Squadron and we are now embarking four hundred Military and one hundred Train to proceed on that Service under the Command of Colonel Clive.

When you add to this Draft the Number of two hundred and fifty men sent before to Bengal under the Command of Major Killpatrick, above two hundred of the Regiment which are embark'd for the Service of the Ships, and our Loss by the Dodington, you may Judge Gentlemen, that Situated as we are close to the Capitol [*sic*] Establishment of the French, We are but insufficiently furnished for the Defence of the Company's own Establishments upon this Coast, and the Protection of a very large Tract of Inland Country which by the vast yearly Revenue it brings to the Company well deserves an Attention to be paid to it's Security.

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——*FORT S^T. GEORGE, OCTOBER 1756.*—— [6TH.]

And although the present Force of the French at Pondichery is not very formidable, yet whatever Supplies may be intended them from Europe are now hourly to be expected, and we are besides continually liable to the Junction of their Force at Golconda, now more considerable than ever, to that of Pondichery.

For the Danger pointed out to You, in our Letter of the 24th August, has prov'd but too Real. M^r. Law having effected a Junction with M^r. Bussy, not six days elaps'd before Salabat Jung consented to an Accommodation, the terms of which according to our best Intelligence are that the French shall enjoy all their former Grants, but not interfere in the Affairs of Country Government; how far they will abide by this last Restriction their universal Practice may teach us to judge.

This Resolution at Salabat Jung's Court in favor of the French gives us the utmost Concern, being Sensible how much that Influence adds to their Power in this Country; we are Conscious at the same time that we cou'd not, with any degree of Prudence, after hearing of the Danger of Bengal, make use of the Opportunity that offer'd of removing that Influence; for it was impossible for us to Spare Troops for both Occasions;

We have enter'd into this detail Gentlemen in order to shew you how liable the Company's Establishments on this Coast are to be visited at a very short Warning by a far Superiour Force of the French; We hope that on the news of the Misfortune at Bengal, and of our Intentions to send a Force thither you have already dispatch'd us in Consequence of our repeat'd Representations as large an Assistance of Men both Military and Artillery, as you can possibly Spare; If not, we now again make Application to you in behalf of our Honble Masters for such immediate Assistance, and we cannot help Remarking that as the French have no footing near Bombay, they cannot suddenly form an Attempt against your Garrison. Upon the first Notice of such an a [*sic*] Danger we shou'd exert ourselves for your Safety as much as we have done for the Safety and Re-establishment of Calcutta.

As we have embarked large Quantities of all Sorts of Military Stores for Bengal, we request you will Comply with the Accompanying Indent. We are in daily Expectation of the Protector with the Field Pieces & Gun Powder promis'd in your Letter 3^d August.

We hope Mr Spencer has been successfull in his Negociations with the Nana; It was by his advice and Influence the French were last remov'd from Salabat Jung. We shall be oblig'd to you if you will give Orders to Mr Spencer to consult with the Nana on that Subject, as well as make him sensible of the Justice of our Proceedings against the Nabob of Bengal.

We are Gentlemen
Your most Obedient
humble Servants
GEORGE PIGOT &C^A COMMITTEE.

Fort St George
6th October 1756.

N.B.—This was wrote with the large Cypher.

Receiv'd the following Letter from Col^o. Adlercron.

To GEORGE PIGOT ESQ^R. PRESIDENT & GOVERNOR
&C^A COUNCIL OF FORT S^T GEORGE.

Gentlemen,

My Secretary being at present indisposed, and as I am inform'd, the Troops do not embark till the latter end of the Week, Shall defer for a day or two Sending Col^o. Clive the Power you desire of holding Courts Martial.

I am Gentlemen
Your most Obedient
humble Servant
JOHN ADLERCRON.

Fort St George.
6th October 1756.

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[6TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, OCTOBER 1756.*——

Receiv'd also the following Letter from Admiral Watson.

To the President and Members
of the Secret Committee of Fort St George.

Gentlemen,

I have receiv'd your favor of Yesterday's date, requesting me to embark on board his Majesty's Ships about 600 Military, and acquainting me if I cou'd possibly carry some Seapoys besides, it wou'd be of great use to the Company's Affairs. Colonel Clive gave me a Return of the Military yesterday Evening, which I have made a distribution of, and Sent him. I shall direct them to be embark'd as soon as the Provisions for the Seapoys, design'd to be sent in the Malborough [*sic*] and Walpole, can be sent off, and as the Men of War will be so full, I must desire the Baggage belonging to the Troops may be order'd on board the Indiamen, except such necessaries as the Officers can't do without.

As the Bombay Frigate is not to be taken up for this expedition, I will order fifty Seapoys to be receiv'd on board each of the Capitol Ships, tho' I confess it's contrary to my Judgment, as the Squadron will be crowded, and a long Passage will Probably bring on a Sickness.

I am Gentlemen
Your most Obedient
humble Servant
Chas Watson.

Fort St George
6th October 1756.

At a Committee

Present

George Pigot Esqr.	Governor President
Robert Clive	Stringer Lawrence
Henry Powney	Robert Orme
William Perceval	Robert Palk.

Saturday the 9th

Letters for Rear Admiral Watson, the Committee of Bengal, and Colonel Clive Read, and Amended.

It being thought most for the Company's Advantage to contract for the Dieting of the Military & Seapoys on board during their Passage to Bengal, Mr. Henry Doidge offers to provide for the Europeans at the Rate of eight Fanams a day each Man, and for the Seapoys at the Rate of four Fanams a day ea Man. The Committee think eight Fanams a day for the Europeans to be too much, and propose to Mr. Doidge to provide for them at Six Fanams, which he at length consents to, on condition that he receive a Rupee for every eleven Fanams.

Agreed to direct the Paymaster of the Expedition to account with Mr. Doidge accordingly.

Agreed further

That an Advance of three month's Pay, and a Gratuity of twelve Rupees a Man be given to the Seapoys, and Lascars, who with great Difficulty, and only on those Conditions have been prevail'd on to go.

That a Copy of the Book of Military Regulations form'd in Committee 27th November 1755 containing an Account of Pay, Batta, &c be deliver'd to the Paymaster of the Expedition for his Guidance, and wherever the Payment is Specified in Pagodas — it is to be reduc'd into Pounds Sterling at 8s Shill. and then into Rupees according to the Bengal Establishment.

That Colonel Clive be furnish'd with a Table at the Company's Expence, in lieu of Batta.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, OCTOBER 1756.*—— [9TH.]

And that it be left to Colonel Clive to contract in the cheapest manner he can for the Diet of the Troops when they take the Field in Bengal.

The Paymaster of the Expedition having Occasion for a further Advance of thirty thousand (30,000) Rupees, and three thousand two hundred and Fifty (3,250) Pagodas for the beforemention'd Services, Agreed that Application be made to the President and Council to advance him that Sum, and also to consign four hundred thousand (400,000) Rupees to Colonel Clive, by the Ships Walpole, & Marlborough for the general Service of the Expedition

Mr. Manningham having acquainted the President that he is of Opinion the Nabobs of the Provinces of Perenea, Dacca, & Cuttack, Situated in, or on the Borders of Bengal may be disaffected to the present Government, and inclin'd to join our Forces, it is Agreed to furnish Colonel Clive with a letter to each, Setting forth the Injuries that have been done us, and our Desire to be in Friendship with them, and to Assist in their Affairs.

A Danish Ship being under Dispatch for Europe from Tranquebar. Ordered, that a Letter be prepar'd to be sent on her to the Secret Committee of the East India Company, informing them of the most material Occurrences Since the Dispatch of the Winchelsea, of the Strength of the Detachment for Bengal and of the Force remaining here.

Order'd that Instructions to the Commanders of the Ships Walpole, and Marlborough, be prepar'd, directing them to put themselves under the Orders of Admiral Watson.

And as the Boneta Ketch has receiv'd on board four hundred Barrils of Powder and is ready to proceed to Bengal it is Agreed that She be immediately dispatch'd.

GEORGE PIGOT.

HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
WILLM PERCEVAL.
ROBT PALK.

In the Evening deliver'd the Master of the Boneta Ketch his Dispatch to Bengal, with the follows: Letter.

To the Honble Roger Drake Esqr.

Sir

Having laden on the Boneta Ketch 400 Barrils of Powder, I now dispatch her to you imagining that She might not be able to keep Company with the Men of War, who will follow in four or five days.

This Vessel being Freighted for the Company, from the 17t of September at 350 Pagodas ₱r Month, for three Months, you will be at Liberty to employ her any way that She can be of use.

I am Sir
Your most Obedient
humble Servant
GEORGE PIGOT.

Fort St. George
9th October 1756.

Letter to the Secret Committee of the East India Company to be sent Viâ Tranquebar, Read in its full Draft, approv'd, & order'd to be copied fair. [11TH.]

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, OCTOBER 1756.*——

At a Committee

Present

George Pigot Esqr	Governor President.
Robert Clive	Stringer Lawrence
Henry Powney	Robert Orme
William Perceval	Robert Palk.

Wednesday 13th. October.

Letter from Vice Admiral Watson, Read as follows.

To the President and Members
of the Secret Committee of Fort St. George.

Gentlemen,

I yesterday receiv'd an Order from the Right Honble the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, dated 29th March 1756, directing me to return to England with the Squadron under my Command, his Majesty having Signified his Pleasure to them, for my so doing. I think it proper to communicate these my Orders to you, that you may on this Occasion take such measures as appear most adviseable for the Company's Interest. However, Gentlemen, as the Company's Affairs are in so distress'd a Condition, I continue My Resolution to proceed to Bengal, agreable to your Request, before I put his Majesty's Orders in Execution.

I heartily wish you Success, and have the honor to be

Gentlemen
Your most Obedient
humble Servant
Chas Watson.

Fort St. George
9th October 1756.

Sent the following Answer to Mr. Watson.

To Charles Watson Esqr.
Vice Admiral of the Blue
& Commander in Chief of his Majesty's
Squadron in India.

Sir

We have receiv'd the favor of your Letter dated the 9th October, in which you are pleas'd to communicate to us the Orders you have receiv'd for Returning to England with the Squadron under your Command Permit us, Sir, to assure you, that we esteem the Continuance of your Resolution to proceed to Bengal, as a Strong Additional Instance, to the many we have receiv'd of your Constant Attention to render All the Services in your Power to the Welfare of the Affairs of the East India Company.

We are Sir
Your most Obedient humble
Servants

George Pigot—Robert Clive—Stringer Lawrence—Henry Powney—Robert Orme—William Perceval—Robert Palk.

Fort St. George
13th October 1756.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, OCTOBER 1756.*—— [13th]

The President acquaints the Committee that Admiral Watson although he has Receiv'd Orders to return to England with the Squadron, has been so kind to promise to leave the fifty Gun Ship, the Twenty Gun Ship, and the Sloop at Bengal if the Company's Affairs should require it, at the time of his coming away from thence. Agreed to apprize the Gentlemen of the Committee at Bengal of this Obliging Offer of Mr. Watson's that they may make use of it, Shou'd they see Occasion.

The following Letter from Colonel Adlercron Read with a Warrant as therein mention'd.

To GEORGE PIGOT ESQR. PRESIDENT & GOVERNOR &CA.
GENTLEMEN OF THE SECRET COMMITTEE.

Gentlemen,

Agreable to the Request contain'd in your Letter to me of the 5th Instant, I have made out a proper Power for Lieut. Colonel Clive, which I inclose to you herewith.

I am Gentlemen
Your most Obedient
humble Servant
JOHN ADLERCRON.

Fort St. George
10th October 1756.

Ordered that the Warrant be inclos'd in our Packet to Colonel Clive.

The following Letters read in their fair Copies, and sign'd.

To Vice Admiral Watson.
To the Gentlemen of the Committee of Bengal.
To Major James Killpatrick.
To Mr. John Zephania Holwell.
To the Nabob of Bengal.
To the Nabobs of Perenea, Dacca & Cuttack.
Instructions to Robert Clive Esqr. Commdr. in Chief of the Land Forces employed on the Expedition to Bengal.
Instructions to Mr. John Walsh Paymaster to the Expedition to Bengal.
Instructions to Mr. Thomas Maunsell Commissary of the Forces.
Orders to Captain Fowler of Ship Walpole and Captain McLeod of Ship Marlboro ' all which are Ordered to be here copied.

To CHARLES WATSON ESQR.
VICE ADMIRAL OF THE BLUE, AND COMMANDER IN
CHIEF OF HIS MAJESTY'S SQUADRON IN INDIA.

Sir

It is with great pleasure we congratulate You, on your late Promotion, and at the same time, We beg leave to return you our Thanks for the Readiness you have shewn at all times to promote the Interest of the Company and particularly in the Forwarding this Expedition.

The Commanders of the Compys Ships Walpole and Marlborough have directions to put themselves under your Orders. We have only to request that when the President and Council of Bengal apply for them for the Service of the Company, you will then give them Orders to obey their Commands.

You have already been acquainted in the Conferences, we have had the honor to hold with you on the Subject of this Expedition, that our General View in putting the Company to so vast an Expence is the Re-establishment of the Company's

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[13TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, OCTOBER 1756.*——

Settlements in Bengal upon the most advantagious and Secure footing possible and a Reimbursement of the loss they have lately suffer'd from the Violences of the Nabob, the readiest means of obtaining these ends, we Judge to be an immediate Opening of Hostilities against him both by Sea and Land in such manner as Shall appear to be most likely to distress his Country. The Particular Operations of the Ships under your Command, you will be the best Judge of, when you arrive in the River, where you will probably meet with Mr. Drake and most of his Council; Of those Gentlemen the following are appointed by the last Ships from England to be a Committee for the Management of Matters Relative to the Protection and Preservation of the Company's Estate, Rights and Priviledges, Viz^t. Roger Drake Esqr., Colonel Lawrence when present, Messrs. Watts, Manningham and Becher.

To the Representations therefore that may be made you in behalf of the Company by the beforenamed Gentlemen, or any part of them Join'd to Colonel Clive, we do request that you will be pleas'd to pay the same Attention as you have hitherto done to the Representations that have been made you by us.

Relying on the Promise you have been pleas'd to make us, of landing the whole or a part of his Majesty's Troops on board the Ships under your Command, if the Occasions of the Squadron shall not make the Detention of them on board absolutely necessary. We have not Sent so many of the Company's Troops on this Expedition, as might perhaps otherwise be necessary for the Execution of it.

As we are present [*sic*] in great Uncertainty of the Measures that may have been taken in Europe We must request that when you shall think proper to leave Bengal, You will if possible come to Madras with the Ships under your Command, and shou'd at that time the news of a War, or any particular Emergency's [*sic*] render it necessary to the Wellfare of the Coast, to call back the whole or any part of the Troops which we have put under the Command of Colonel Clive, We have directed that Gentleman implicitly to obey the Future orders he may receive from us on this Subject. We, therefore Sir, request that whenever Colonel Clive Shall make Application to you to embark any Troops, and to bring them to the Coast, You will be pleas'd to comply with such Request, as you may be assured it will not be made, but when the absolute necessity of Affairs requires it.

We have the honor to be
Sir Your most Obedient
humble Servants

GEORGE PIGOT &C^A COMMITTEE.

Fort St. George
13th October 1756.

To THE HONBLE ROGER DRAKE ESQ^R.
MESSRS. WILLIAM WATTS, CHARLES MANNINGHAM
AND WILLIAM BECHER.

Gentlemen,

The Secret Committee of the Honble East India Company in their Letter to us dated 13th February, having advis'd us that they have appointed you (with Col^o. Lawrence when present) to be a Select Committee with powers to take such Measures as shall be necessary for the Protection and Preservation of the Company's Estates, Rights. and Priviledges, and having directed us the Committee for the Affairs of this Presidency, to Correspond with you on all Matters relative thereto, It is therefore to you, Gentlemen, that we address the Advice we have to Offer on the Subject of the late Calamity that has befallen the Company's Settlements and Estate in the Province of Bengal, with an Information of the Efforts we have made for the Re-establishment of the Company's Possessions and the Reimbursement of the Loss of Property they have Sustain'd.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, OCTOBER 1756.*—— [13th.]

We are to acknowledge the Receipt of the following Letters.

From Roger Drake Esqr and the Gentlemen of the Council at Fulta, dated 18th August.

From Roger Drake Esqr Messrs Watts, Killpatrick, & Holwell at Fulta 19th Do.

From Mr Holwell at Muxadavad the 17th July 1756.

From Mr Holwell at Hughely dated 3^{d} August 1756.

From Messrs Watts & Collet dated 2^{d}, 6th, 7th, & 18th July the last inclosing a letter for the Court of Directors,

From Mr Becher &^{c} Council at Dacca, dated 13th July

Of all which, Copies will be transmitted to our Honble Masters.

By Letter from the President and Council of Madras to Mr Drake and the Gentlemen of the Council at Fulta, dated 18th & 21st Septr which was dispatch'd by the King's Fisher Sloop, you were advis'd of the Disposition that had been made for the Departure of the whole of his Majesty's Squadron, and a large part of our Troops under the Command of Colonel Clive, for the Execution of the Service beforemention'd.

Accordingly Vice Admiral Watson with his Majesty's Ships Kent, Cumberland, Tiger, Salisbury and Bridgwater, with the Company's Ships Walpole & Marlborough now sail for Ballasore Road, and we have embark'd, all Officers included 528 Military and 109 Train, and 940 Seapoys under the Command of Robert Clive Esqr who has his Majesty's Commission as Lieutenant Colonel.

It is our Duty to represent to you that we think Mr Watson shou'd be present and assist in all your Councils and Deliberations held on the Subject of the War you shall carry on, or the Treaties which you shall make with the Nabob. You will find in this Gentleman, as we always have, the greatest disinterestedness, as well as Zeal and Willingness to promote the Welfare of the East India Company.

Mr Pocock likewise always Assisted with Mr Watson at our Councils, and will at your Request, We are persuaded as readily assist at Yours.

As Colonel Clive's Rank in the Company's Service is Deputy Governor of Fort St David, and to succeed to the Presidency of Fort St George, we doubt not but you will Show him all the Respect that Rank entitles him to; and as his Assistance in your Councils will be particularly useful, you will think it proper to offer him a Seat at your Board. During his Stay at Bombay he took the Right hand of the President.

We cou'd not have resolved to engage our Honble Masters in the vast Expence of fitting out this Armament, but with the hopes of obtaining an equivalent advantage. The mere Re-taking of Calcutta Shou'd we think by no means be the end of this Undertaking, not only their Settlements and Factories shou'd be restor'd, but all their Priviledges establish'd in the full Extent granted by the great Mogul, and ample Reparation made to them for the loss they have lately Sustain'd; Otherwise We are of Opinion it wou'd have been better nothing had been attempted, than to have added the heavy Charge of this Armament to their former Loss without Securing their Colonies and Trade from future Insults and Exactions.

Shou'd the Nabob on the news of the Arrival of these Forces, make Offers tending to the Acquiring to the Company the beforemention'd Advantages, rather than risque the Success of a War, we think that Sentiments of Revenging Injuries altho they were never more Just, shou'd give place to the necessity of Sparing as far as possible the many bad Consequences of War, besides the expence of the Company's Treasures; but we are of Opinion that the Sword shou'd go hand in hand with the Pen, and that on the Arrival of the present Armament, Hostilities shou'd immediately Commence, with the utmost Vigor. These Hostilities must be of every kind, which can either distress his Dominions, & Estate, or bring Reprizals into our Possession.

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[13TH] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, OCTOBER 1756.*——

We need not represent to you the great advantage which we think it will be to the Military Operations, and the Influence it will have in the Nabob's Councils, to effect a Junction with any Powers in the Provinces of Bengal, that may be disatisfied with the Violences of the Nabob's Government, or that may have Pretensions to the Nabobship.

And it is we think more immediately necessary at the Opening of the Military Operations to request Mr. Watson to block up if possible all the Passes of the River thro' which the Salt, Rice, and other Provisions are carried into the Country; and to Seize on all that shall come within the reach of the Armament, consulting at the same time proper measures for Supplying our own Force with Provisions.

We have directed Colonel Clive to apply to you Gentlemen, for a plan of such Treaty as you wou'd reccommend to be made with the Nabob; and also for a Plan of such Military Operations by Land as you wou'd recommend to be carried on against him, untill he shall consent to such terms as the Treaty may be concluded on; and Colonel Clive will assist you with his advice in the Forming these Plans.

But as we have a Particular Dependence on Colonel Clive's Abilities for the Management of this Expedition, and as it is absolutely necessary that no Division of Opinion or other Impediment shou'd prevent it's being carried into full and entire Execution, our Instructions to Colonel Clive will impower him to proceed to such Military Operations by Land, as he shall Judge most for the Company's Interest, transmitting to us in a very explicit manner his Reasons for any Proceedings which may differ from your Sentiments, which Reasons, shall be refered to the Court of Directors; And shou'd we upon the news of a War with France, find it necessary to recall him with a part of the Troops, that he do immediately come away with such Troops leaving only as many as he shall think Sufficient for the Defence of Calcutta; As in that Circumstance we must think the Preservation of the Company's Estate under our Authority a Concern of too much Importance to be Subjected to the Risques which may be incurr'd by the Want of those Troops; We thought it indispensably our Duty to invest Colonel Clive with so large a Power, Judging that the Certain Possessions of the Company on this Coast wou'd in such a Case require infinitely more our Attention, than the present uncertainty of this Enterprize.

We have laden 400,000 Rups. on the Walpole, and Marlborô each two Lack Consign'd to Colonel Clive, for the Service of the Expedition.

We have appointed Mr. John Walsh Paymaster of the Forces, and Mr. Thomas Maunsell Commissary.

The Military Stores embark'd for the Service of the Expedition are under the Charge of the proper Officers Subject to the Orders of Colonel Clive, who will deliver you Lists of the Whole.

You will observe by the inclos'd Copies of a Council of War and three Letters to and from Admiral Watson in what manner the Disposal of the Reprizals that may be made upon the Moors is Settled. Accordingly if any shou'd be made you will be pleas'd Jointly with Admiral Watson & Colonel Clive to appoint Proper Persons to take Charge of the Share that is to be deposited.

The Honble Court of Directors having transmitted to us by the Ship Chesterfield a Commission appointing James Killpatrick Esqr. to be Major of the Forces on the Bengal Establishment with orders to deliver it to that Gentleman, we forward it accordingly by this Conveyance.

We have deliver'd Colonel Clive a Letter from our President to the Nabob of Bengal and a Letter from Salabat Jung to the same Nabob, of both which we now inclose Translations for your Perusal.

We have also deliver'd Colo. Clive a Copy (attested by the Caugee of Delly) of the Mogul's Phirmaund to the Company for the Possession of their Several Settlements, and a Book containing a Translation not only of the Phirmaund but also of the Orders sent from Delly to the Officers of the Different Subahs enjoining them to put the Company in

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, OCTOBER 1756.*—— [13TH.]

Possession, and permit them to enjoy the Priviledges granted by the said Phirmaund. Colo. Clive is directed to leave both the Persian Copy and the English Translations with you, when he returns to the Coast.

The Company's Ships Marlbrô and Walpole are put under the Directions of Admiral Watson, as you will observe by the Copies of our Orders to the Commanders. Shou'd you have Occasion to employ them for the Company's Service, we doubt not he will upon your Application direct them to follow your Orders.

Mr. Watson has receiv'd orders to return to England but his good Inclination to the Service of the Company has led him to assure us that if at that time it Shall be necessary for him to quit Bengal, you shou'd be in such a Situation as to require further Protection from a Part of his Squadron he will on your Application leave with you the 50 and 20 Gun Ships, and the Sloop.

We cannot too much enforce to you the absolute Necessity which appears to us that the Houses and Buildings of Calcutta, from which an Enemy can annoy the Fort, be immediately level'd as otherwise we cannot Conceive any method of Preserving the Fort from the same Fate, it has lately Suffered.

We are Gentlemen,
Your most Obedient
humble Servants

Fort St. George
13th October 1756.

GEORGE PIGOT &cA COMMITTEE.

To MAJOR JAMES KILLPATRICK.

Sir

We have receiv'd your Letter dated at Fulta the 5th August 1756. The Honble the Court of Directors having been pleas'd to transmit us a Commission appointing you to be Major of the Forces upon the Bengal Establishment we forward it to you under this Cover, and it gives us pleasure to see this Proof of the Company's Approbation of your Services.

We are now making a great Effort for the Re-establishment of the Company's Affairs in Bengal, and in the Commission we have given to Colonel Clive appointing him Commander in Chief of the Land Forces to be employ'd on this Expedition, we have named you to succeed to the same Commission in case of Accident to him.

We are Sir,
Your most Obedient Servants

Fort St. George
13 October 1756.

GEORGE PIGOT &c. COMMITTEE.

To JOHN ZEPHANIA HOLWELL.

Sir

We have receiv'd your letters dated 17th July from Muxadavad & 3d. August from Hughely, Copies of which, Shall be forwarded to the Honble Court of Directors by the first Ship from hence.

We are Sir,
Your most Obedt Servants

Fort St. George
[13] October 1756.

GEORGE PIGOT &cs. COMMITTEE.

To THE NABOB OF BENGAL. OCTOBER 4TH 1756.

I receiv'd the letter you was pleas'd to write me on the 30th June, advising me that it was not your Intention to remove the Mercantile Business of the English Company out of the Subah of Bengal; and at the same time I receiv'd Information

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that all the Company's Factories in the said Province with their Effects amounting to several Kerows * had been Seiz'd by your People also all the Effects of all the Merchants who resided in the said Settlements amounting to a great many Lacks more, and I was further inform'd that the greatest Part of the Merchants were kill'd by your People in a cruel, and barbarous manner beyond what can be describ'd in writing. I must inform you that the English have above all other Nations enrich'd your Province by a most extensive trade, and the Importation of immense Sums of ready money, The Mogul was so Sensible of the many Advantages of our Settling in Bengal that he has given us by his Phirmaunds his Protection together with many Priviledges and Indulgences in all parts of his Dominions, and these Priviledges and Indulgences the English have enjoy'd from that time to this according to the Intent of the Royall Phirmaund, Indeed in Bengal the Subahs did not comply with the Royall Phirmaund, but out of thirty two Villages given to us by the King suffered us to possess but three, and moreover have often on trifling Pretences taken large Sums of Money from the Governors of Bengal. However as it was the Intent of the English to live peaceably, and follow their Trade in your Province they Submitted, and made no Disturbance. All that the Subahs your Predecessors have done is nothing in Comparison to what you have lately done: I shoud have been willing to have beleiv'd that the Violence and Cruelties exercis'd by your Army against the English was without your Knowledge, but I find you commanded your Army in Person, and after Killing and murdering our People took Possession of the Fort. The Great Commander of the King of England's Ships has not Slept in Peace since this news, and is come down with many Ships, and I have sent a great Serdar, who will govern after me, by name Colonel Clive, with Troops and Land Forces. Full Satisfaction and Restitution must be made for the Losses we have Sustain'd. You are wise, Consider whether it is better to engage in a War that will never end, or to do what is Just and right in the sight of God; a great Name is obtain'd by Justice as well as by Valour. You have heard that we have fought, and always been victorious in these Parts. The Nabob of this Province writes you how much we have assisted in his Affairs, and always acted in Support of the Orders of the King of Delly; Salabat jung ask'd our Assistance, but we determin'd to obtain Satisfaction in Bengal. Mr. Clive will explain all things to you. What can I say more?

* a Kerow is one hundred Lack.

To the Nabob of Perenea.

It was with the greatest Grief and Surprize, I receiv'd the news of the new Nabob of Bengal's ill treatment of the English who have for so many Years brought immense Riches into that Country, and carried on their Trade quietly. It is besides well known that the English have in all Parts acted in Obedience to the Great Mogul, and in Support of his Orders. In this Province they have maintain'd a long and Successfull War against those who were Enemies to the Mogul's authority, and the Mogul on his Part granted them several Settlements with great Priviledges as a mark of his Favor. Now as the Nabob of Bengal acted contrary to the Royall Phirmaund, dispossess'd the English, & plundered the Company's as well as Private Effects to the Amount of Several Kerows, the Great Commander of the King of England's Ships thought it necessary to go to those Parts with a great number of Ships and I have also Sent Colonel Clive who is to be Governor after me, and who is a brave Soldier, with Land Forces, full and ample Satisfaction must be obtain'd from the Nabob for all the Losses he has caus'd to the English, otherwise he must fight with such an Army as has never before appear'd, in that Country that has been Victorious in a thousand Battles. As you are Sensible of the Justice of my Proceedings and that I am inclin'd to act in all things according to the orders of the Great Mogul, I hope you will Shew me Marks of your Friendship. For further particulars I refer you to Colonel Clive.

Write me of your Health that I may Rejoice.

The same to the Nabob of Dacca
and the Nabob of Cuttack.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, OCTOBER 1756.*—— [13ma.]

To ROBERT CLIVE Esqr.

Sir,

Judging the Re-Establishment of the Company's Settlements at Bengal to be of the highest Importance to their Welfare, we have requested of Admiral Watson to proceed thither with the whole Squadron under his Command.

We have embark'd on the several Ships of the Squadron all Officers included 528 Military and 109 Train, and on the Company's Ships Walpole and Marboro' [*sic*] with the Boneta Ketch and those on board his Majesty's Ships 940 Seapoys, and 160 Lascars with twelve field Pieces, one Haubitzer, and a necessary Quantity of Ammunition, and Reposing full Confidence in your Abilities we have appointed you to be Commander in Chief of the Land Forces to be employ'd on the present Expedition.

You are therefore to proceed with this Command to Bengal. In the River you will probably meet with most of the Gentlemen of the late Council of whom the following have been this year appointed by the Secret Committee of the Honble East India Company to be a Select Committee for the Management of all Matters relative to the Protection or Preservation of the Company's Estate, Rights and Priviledges Viz^t. Roger Drake Esqr; Col^o. Lawrence when present, Messrs. Watts, Manningham, & Becher.

To these Gentlemen, we have address'd a Letter which we now deliver you together with a Copy thereof, by which you will observe our Intentions in fitting out this Armament, and this Letter will serve to guide you in acting up to the Spirit of these Intentions.

Conformably to these Instructions we have desir'd the Gentlemen of the Select Committee appointed as beforemention'd to form and deliver you a Plan of such Treaty, as they wou'd recommend to be made for the best advantage of the Company with the Nabob of Bengal, and likewise a Plan of such Military Operations, as they shall Judge most likely to compel the Nabob to consent to the Terms of the said Treaty. They will probably desire your Presence at their Councils. We need not recommend to you to assist them, with your best advice and We most earnestly require You to endeavor to preserve a good Harmony throughout.

If any part of the Plans you shall receive from the Gentlemen beforemention'd Shall appear to you not to lead by the most Speedy and efficacious way to the obtaining the hop'd for advantage to the Company you will explain very particularly your Sentiments to those Gentlemen, pointing out to them Such alteration as you think will better answer the purpos'd End, in which Alteration we flatter ourselves they will then occur. If not, you are empower'd, and we do hereby empower you to pursue such Measures as you shall Judge most conducive to the Company's Benefit, transmitting to them, & to us in the most particular manner your Reasons for so doing.

Our last Advices from Europe have given us too much Reason to fear there will be but a very short time for the Execution of this Project, it being our Resolution, Shoud we receive News of a War with France, immediately to recal you, and the greatest Part of the Troops for the Defence of this Coast. Upon the Receipt of such Orders from us you are to leave so many Men as you judge necessary for the immediate Defence of Calcutta, and proceed hither with the Rest without Loss of time, notwithstanding any thing that may be urg'd to the Contrary by the Gentlemen of Bengal, for in such Circumstances we cannot but regard the certain Possession of the Establishments under our Authority on this Coast, and in this Country to be an object of too great Importance to the Company, not to employ our utmost Attention. Shou'd our Orders for returning arrive with you, before his Majesty's Ships have left Bengal, you are to request Admiral Watson or the Commander of the Ships that may be there to bring the Troops to Madras; but shou'd none of his Majesty's Ships

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remain with you, then you are to apply to the President & Council for such of the Company's Ships, as may be there, or employ such private Vessels as may be procurable.

Inclos'd is a Copy of a Council of War, held here by the Officers of his Majesty's Squadron the 30th September, & 2d October concerning the Disposal of what may be taken from the Moors, with Copies of three Letters which pass'd between Mr. Watson and us on the same Subject. As far as the shares of the Sea Forces are distributed we consent that the shares of such Part of the Land Forces, as by their Rank are to share with those Sea Forces, be distributed also. In case Reprizals shou'd be made, you are to consider Jointly with Mr. Watson, and the Bengal Comittee of the Appointment of proper Commissaries to take charge of ye. Portion that is to be deposited.

We have appointed Mr. John Walsh to be Paymaster of the Forces to be employ'd on the present Expedition, and Mr. Thos. Maunsell Commissary. They are to act in all things according to your Orders, but we have deliver'd the Paymaster for his Guidance a Copy of our Military Regulations relating to Pay, Batta, &c, and a Letter of Instructions of which herewith is a Copy.

Conformably to the Paragraph of our Honble Masters Commands therein refer'd to, No Batta, or extraordinary Allowance shou'd be given to the Troops in any of their Garrisons, but as the state in which their Settlements at Bengal may be found is quite uncertain we leave it to you to regulate this in such Manner, as you shall see Reasonable. When their Settlements are Re-establish'd and the Inhabitants return'd, so that Provisions become Plenty as usual. This Order of our Honble Masters must be Strictly observ'd.

It has been Customary here to diet the non-Commission'd Officers, and Soldiers in the Field, instead of Batta, and this has always been done by Contract. The last Contract was 4 fanams a day for each man, but as Provisions have generally been much cheaper, and more plenty at Bengal, than on this Coast, we hope you will be able to contract for a less Price. We leave it to you to settle this to the best advantage of the Company.

The Military Stores embark'd for the Service of this Expedition, according to the inclos'd Lists, are under the charge of the respective Officers, who are accountable to You. You will give them Orders to be particularly careful that none are lost or Damaged, and cause very exact Monthly accounts to be deliver'd you of the Receipts and Issues. You are to give Copies of the Lists of Stores to the Committee at Bengal.

On the Ships Malborough, [*sic*] and Walpole, we have laden Arcot Rupees 400,000 (two Lack on each Ship) consign'd to you for the Service of the Expedition. Out of this you are to make such Issues to the Paymaster as you shall See necessary, and in case you shou'd have occasion for a further supply, You are to apply to the President and Council there, and if they shou'd not be able to furnish you, you have Liberty to draw on us.

You are to cause a General Muster to be made monthly by the Commissary, of all the Forces, Lascars, Artificers, Cooley's and others in the Companys Pay. We desire you will be present at these Musters, as often as your Business will permit, and when you cannot be present yourself, depute Such Person as you shall think proper. These Musters shou'd be taken as near as possible to the end of every month, because they are to be a Guide to the Paymaster for his Issues of Pay, and the Commissary is to transmit Copies of the Muster Rolls to us by the most Secure Opportunities that offer.

We deliver you herewith a Letter from the President to the Nabob of Bengal, and a Letter from Salabat Jung to the same Nabob, both which you are to transmit to him at such time as you shall Judge most proper. Inclos'd are likewise Translations of the two Letters for your Perusal.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, OCTOBER 1756.*—— [13TH.]

We deliver you likewise a Copy attested by the Caugee of Delly of the Mogul's Phirmaund to the Company for the Possession of their several Settlements, and a Book containing a Translation not only of the Phirmaund, but also of the orders sent from Delly at the same time to the Officers of the several Subah's enjoining them to put the Company in Possession and permit them to enjoy the Priviledges granted by the said Phirmaund. By this Book you will be particularly informed what the Company have a Right to pretend for in the Province of Bengal, which will be a great Assistance in your Negociations with the Nabob. When you return to the Coast you are to leave both the Persian Copy, and the Book of Translations in the hands of the Select Comittee at Bengal.

We inclose Colonel Adlercron's Warrant empowering you, or the Commander in Chief of the Expedition for the time being, to appoint Courts Martial, and Persons to officiate as Judge Advocate. With our Wishes for your Success

We are Sir,
Your most Obedient Servts

GEORGE PIGOT—STRINGER LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY—ROBERT ORME—WILLIAM PERCEVAL—ROBERT PALK.

Fort St George
13th October 1756.

To Mr. JOHN WALSH.

Sir

We have appointed you to be Paymaster of the Forces to be employ'd on the Expedition to Bengal, and we have order'd a Copy of the Book of Military Regulations, to be deliver'd you for your Guidance.

In that Book you will see the Regulations for the Pay and Batta of Officers and Soldiers, Seapoys, Lascars &ca but as some of those Regulations are stated in Pagodas & Fanams you are to observe the following Instructions for Reducing them into Rupees, the Currency of Bengal.

The Pay of the Military is Settled by the Company in £ Sterling; at Bengal it is to be turn'd into Rupees, according to the Bengal Establishment.

The Lascars have been paid here in Pagodas. You are to value the Pagoda at 8shs. and reduce that into Rupees according to the Bengal Establishment, and you are to advance the Seapoys and Lascars three Months Pay, besides a Gratuity of twelve Rupees a man.

The Pay and contingent charges of the whole Detachment from the 1st of October is to be carried to the Account of the Expedition, and you are to transmit Accounts Monthly, or as often as you have Opportunity to the Presidency of Bengal as well as to us.

We have agreed that Colonel Clive be furnish'd with a Table at the Company's Expence in lieu of Batta.

The Batta of the other Officers is already settled in Rupees, It is to commence from the day of their Embarking, and you are to advance them two months Batta.

The Non-commissioned Officers and Soldiers we have agreed with Mr. Doidge to diet on board at the Rate of 6 Fans. a day for each man. His Bill is to be paid accordingly on your Arrival at Bengal at the Rate of eleven fanams for a Rupee.

When the Troops take the Field the Non-commission'd Officers and Soldiers will be dieted by Contract at such Rate as Colonel Clive shall settle.

For the diet of the Seapoys & Lascars on board, we have also Agreed with Mr. Doidge At the rate of 4 Fans a day each man, for which his Bill is to be paid at Bengal at the Rate of 11 Fans for a Rupee.

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When the Seapoys & Lascars take the Feild they are to be paid Batta according to the Book of Military Regulations reckoning the Fanams at the Rate of twelve to a Rupee as has been always practisd here.

Inclos'd is Copy of a Paragraph of the Company's Orders to this Presidency by which you will observe that no extraordinary Allowance is to be paid to the Troops, while in any of the Company's Garrisons, But as it will be sometime before the Settlements in Bengal can be Re-establish'd on their former Footing, Colonel Clive may find it necessary to deviate from this Rule, on the Scarcity or Dearness of Provisions.

Mr. Thomas Maunsell proceeds in quality of Commissary. All the Military, Seapoys, Lascars, Artificers, Cooleys, in Short every Man who is to receive Pay from the Company, must be regularly muster'd monthly by the Commissary in presence of the Commanding Officer or the Person by him deputed, and according to that Muster Roll, which is to be deliver'd to you properly certify'd, you are to issue the Pay, taking care that all Casualties are regularly noted according to the Book of Military Regulations, which shoud be done by inserting the names of the Military, Sepoys Lascars &c. in a Book kept on purpose and noting opposite to their Names the Deaths, Promotions, Desertions &c. which may happen.

Lastly you are to follow all Orders you shall receive from the Committee at Fort St. George for the time being or the Commander in Chief of the Expedition. Dated in Fort St. George the 13th October 1756.

To Mr. Thomas Maunsell.

Sir

We have appointed you to be Commissary of the Forces employ'd on the Expedition to Bengal.

You are to muster the whole Detachment, Military, Artillery, Seapoys, Lascars, Artificers, Cooleys, in short all that receive Pay from the Company, monthly, if time and place will permit, and to take notice of such as are Sick, Wounded, deserted, Dead, or absent without Leave. You are to deliver a Copy of the said Muster Roll Sign'd by the Commanding Officer or the person he shall depute, and by yourself, to the Paymaster of the Forces; and to transmit a Copy, ascertain'd in the same manner to us, by such secure Opportunities as Shall offer.

And as these Muster Rolls are to be a Guidance to the Paymaster in his Issues of Pay, the said Musters are to be taken as near as possible to the end of every month.

Lastly you are to follow all such Orders as you shall receive from the Committee of Fort St. George for the time being; and to give due Obedience to the Commander in Chief of the Expedition—Dated in Fort St. George the 13th October 1756.

To Captain Thomas Fowler
Commander of Ship Walpole.

Sir

You are hereby requir'd to follow the Directions of Admiral Watson untill you shall Receive contrary orders from him. Dated in Fort St. George 13th October 1756.

The same to Capt. Alexr. McCleod of Ship Malborô [*sic*].

Ordered that the several Packets to be clos'd and deliver'd immediately. The following are Lists of the Papers under cover to Colo. Clive, and to the Gentlemen of the Committee at Bengall.

List of the Packet to the Select Committee at Bengall dated 13th October 1756.

1. Committee's Letter to the Committee at Bengall.

2. Copy of the Council of War, and letters relating to the Distribution of Prize Money.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, OCTOBER 1756.*—— [13th.]

3. Copy of the Nabob of Bengall's Letter to the President.
4. Copy of the President's Letter to the Nabob of Bengall.
5. Copy of the President's Letter to the Nabobs of Perenea Dacca & Cuttack.
6. Copy of Salabat jung's Letter to the Nabob of Bengall.
7. Copy of the Europe Ships orders.

LIST OF THE PACKET TO ROBERT CLIVE ESQR.

Where Enter'd.	No.	1756.
Proceedgs. Coñ. 13th. Octr. ...	1. Colonel Clive's Instructions dated ...	13th. October
Proceedgs. Coñ. 13th. Octr.	2. Copy of the Committee's letter to Admiral Watson ...	Do.
Proceedgs. Coñ. 13th. Octr.	3. Copy of the Committee's letter to the Coñittee at Bengal.	Do.
Proceedgs. Coñ. 13th. Octr.	4. Copy of the Committee's Instructions to Mr. Walsh Paymr.	Do.
Proceedgs. Coñ. 13th. Octr.	5. Copy of the Committee's Instructions to Mr. Maunsell Coñ.	Do.
Do. 4th. & 5th. Octr.	6. Copy of the Council of War, & letters relating to the Distribution of Prize money	Do.
Proceedgs. Coñ. 13th. Octr.	7. Copy of the Europe Ships Orders ...	Do.
Consultā 17th. Augst. ...	8. Copy of the Nabob of Bengall's letter to the President.	
Country Corrdce. no 266 ...	9. Copy of Salabat Jung's letter to the Nabob of Bengal.	
Proceedgs. Coñ. 13th. Octr.	10. Copy of the President's letter to the Nabob of Bengal.	
Proceedgs. Coñ. 13th. Octr. ...	11. Copy of the Presidents Do to the Nabobs of Perenea, Dacca, & Cuttack.	
	12. Copy of the 68th. Parā of the Company's letter dated 31st. Jañ. 1756 Relating to the Allowances of the Military sent from one Settlement to another.	
	13. Colonel Adlercron's Warrant empowering the Commander in Chief of the Expedition to Bengal to appoint Courts Martial & Judge Advocates.	
	14. Commission appointing Robert Clive Esqr. to be Commander in Chief of the Troops employ'd on the Expedition to Bengal, and in case of his death to James Killpatrick Esqr.	

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LIST OF THE PACKET TO ROBERT CLIVE Esqr—*cont.*

Where Enter'd.	No.	
Proceedgs. commn 23d Janry & 6th May.	15.	Military Regulations to be added to the Book.
	16.	Invoice of Medecines & 2 lacks of Rups. ℔ Walpole.
	17.	Invoice of 2 Lack of Rupees ℔ Malborough [*sic*].
	18.	Bill of Lading for the Rupees. Deliver'd to Colonel Clive apart.
	19.	Persian Copy under the seal of the Caugee of Delly of the Mogull's Phirmaund to the Company.
	20.	A Book containing a Translation of the Phirmaund & of several Orders issued at the same time by the Mogul in favor of the English.
	21.	A Seal'd Bag containing a letter from Salabat Jung to the Nabob of Bengal.
	22.	A Seal'd Bag containing a Letter from Nabob Anaverdy Cawn to the Nabob of Bengal.
	23.	A Packet containing ten letters (of the same Tenor and date) from the President to the Nabob of Bengal.
	24.	A Packet containing a letter from Colonel Clive to the Nabob of Bengal, also Copy of that letter and of Colonel Clive's letter to Salabat Jung.
	25.	A Packet contg. Letters from the President to the Nabobs of Perenea, Dacca & Cuttack, all of the same Tenor and date.
	26.	A Packet contg. Vizt. List of Military Stores for the Service of the Expedition List of Engineers Do List of Artillery Do List of Ordnance & Ordnance Stores.

Letter to the Secret Committee of the East India Company to be sent by the Danish Ship from Tranquebar, Read in its fair Copy and Sign'd.

Order'd that it be immediately dispatch'd, and the President is desir'd to write to the Governor of Tranquebar requesting him to give Orders to the Captain of the Ship to send it ashore by any English Boat that may come off to him in the Channell.

GEORGE PIGOT.

HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.
ROBT. PALK.

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[13TH.]

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, OCTOBER 1756.*——

Dispatch'd to Tranquebar a Letter for the Secret Committee of the East India Company, to be forwarded by a Danish Ship from thence.

16TH. This Morning Vice Admiral Watson, Sail'd from this Road for Bengal with the following Ships under his Command Viz^t. his Majesty's Ships, Kent, Cumberland, Tiger, Salisbury, Bridgwater, & Blaze (Fireship) & the Honble Company's Ships Walpole & Malborô [*sic*] having on board Lieutenant Colonel Clive with a Detachment of Land Forces.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

GEORGE PIGOT ESQ^R:	GOVERNOR PRESIDENT
STRINGER LAWRENCE	HENRY POWNEY
ROBERT ORME	———
ROBERT PALK	M^r. PERCEVAL *indispos'd.*

THURSDAY THE 21ST.

Letter receiv'd by the Honble Company's Ship Protector from the Select Committee at Bombay read as follows.

TO THE HONBLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQ^R.
PRESIDENT & GOVERNOR &^CA MEMBERS OF THE
SELECT COMMITTEE AT FORT ST. GEORGE.

Honble Sir & Sirs

The accompanying is a Duplicate of our last Address, and we shall now Reply to your Honor &^ca Favors, of the 13th & 14th July, receiv'd 20th Ultimo.

On the 2^d Instant we deliver'd M^r. John Spencer our Instructions, for his proceeding to the Nanah at Poonah, but the Weather has since been so boisterous, as to prevent his setting out, however we hope shortly to be advis'd of any thing material, you may have transacted with Salabat Jung, that he may have an Opportunity, of improving any Advantages resulting therefrom, during his Stay with the Nanah.

The General Letter transmitted to your board, on the 10th Instant p^r Lapwing, wou'd inform your Honor &^ca that our Honble Masters Ships, Portfield, Clinton, & Royall Duke imported here from Great Britain, between the 3^d & 7th instant, having left St. Helens [*sic*] on the 27th April last, when there was no War declar'd, by us, or the French, and Affairs were much in the same Situation, as when the Stormont &^ca Ships for China, arriv'd with you.

As to the large Force, which the Secret Committee, in their advices to your Honor &^ca apprehend the French had sent to India, & which you likewise Expect, are destin'd to attack the Settlements on your Coast, the Secret Committee gives us the Same Account of them, & tho' they add that they have since learnt, that the French Company had fitted out but an inconsiderable number of Ships this Season, and that they did not intend to send any more, till the [*sic*] knew the Issue of Affairs, between the two Nations in Europe, yet the Secret Committee did not know which of those Accounts, were to be depended on, and tho' they hop'd the latter, yet they recommend it to us, to be prepar'd against all Events, and we cannot but think, there is equal, or more Reason, to imagine the above Force will be employ'd against this Place, rather than against the Settlements on your Coast, or Bengal, considering that the French are fully acquainted, with M^r. Watson's Squadron being Station'd on your Coast, all the fair Monsoon, and that Colonel Adlercron's Regiment, is likewise there to assist you. They the French may also think from the Report which was current, on the Departure of our last Years Ships, that Col^o. Clive, with the three Companies of His Majesty's Royal Regiment of Artillery, proceeded immediately thither, and on reflecting how speedily M^r. Watson's Squadron might succour Bengal,

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[21st] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, OCTOBER 1756.*——

shou'd not the great Risque of large Ships going up that River, prevent the French, having any Design of attacking them, We cannot but conclude, for these Reasons that they will look on us as the easiest conquest, and of Course that we have the most reason to expect an Attack, especially as we well know, that the French have been long anxious, to get a Sea Port on this Side India, capable of Sheltering their Ships from the Monsoon.

We have fully acquainted your Honor &ca that it was not in our Power to send you the Protector, but fitted as a Merchant Ship, & in Regard to your so Strenuously requesting, to be assisted with her, and the Revenge, we are concern'd to acquaint you, we cannot comply with your request and that the Secret Committee, have besides signified, that no Men of War, can be spar'd for India this Season, which your Honor &ca will doubtless take all possible care, to prevent the French being inform'd of.

The Secret Committee have likewise directed us, not to proceed on their Plan of the 26th March 1755, in conjunction with the Morattas, but to act on the defensive only, & presume before this comes to hand, the same Orders will have reach'd you.

We are truly concern'd, for the bad Situation of our Honble Masters Affairs in Bengal, and that it had requir'd your Honor &ca sending them a Reinforcement, which we wish may arrive in time, but we acquainted you, under the 3d Ultimo, why we cou'd not Send you a Reinforcement of men, We have now to add, that we have receiv'd but very few Recruits by the Ships lately arriv'd, before which our Garrison only consisted, of about Fifteen hundred and Seventy (1570) men, including all the King's, as well as our own Military, Sick and well of every Denomination, occasion'd by our Draughts to Ghereah & Fort Victoria, so that it is not only our own Unanimous Opinion, that we are not able, to reinforce you, in the manner you desire, but likewise that of all his Majesty's & our own Artillery Officers, with whom we have consulted on this Occasion, and who declared, that they thought it highly necessary, for the Safety of the Island, that we should keep all the Force we have, and that was it their own case they wou'd not part with a single man, We however dispatch now the Protector, and tho' we intended you a Supply of our own Gun Powder by her, Sir James Foulis & Major Chalmers Representation of the necessity of keeping all we have in Garrison, has oblig'd us to have recourse to that pointed out by your Honor &ca in your Letter of the 7th May last, a considerable part of which, we have been assur'd is good, & considering the ill Consequences, which may attend your Honor &ca being disappointed of a Supply of so material an Article, we now Order the Protector to Ghereah, & write the Provisional Chief, to procure the whole Quantity and lade it on board her, when the Commander is directed, to proceed immediately to Negapatam, and from thence to your Place, & will acquaint you with the Quantity of Powder he receives at Ghereah. We also send your Honor &ca Six (6) of the 6℔ Field Pieces with their Appurtenances, which are all we can Spare, amounting as ℔r enclosed Account to Rupees 6,283,,–,, 67.

Being in great want of the Shot, Shells, &ca specified in the accompanying List, we request your Honor &ca will supply us therewith, or such Part, as you can spare.

We must repeat our Request of the 25th April last, that your Honor &ca will advise us, the allowances of Garrison Batta, you make to his Majesty's Troops, and if you have receiv'd any Directions from our Honble Masters on that head.

You may depend on our instantly communicating to you, any Intelligence we may receive, of the Designs of the French not doubting of the like from you, and in the mean time, we are endeavouring to render the Island, as defensible as possible against them.

Bombay Castle,
12th Septr. 1756.

We are, Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedient humble Servants
RICHARD BOURCHIER—CHAS. CROMMLIN—
JAMES FOULIS—J. SPENCER—SAM HOUGH.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, OCTOBER 1756.*—— [21ms]

The Force which the Gentlemen at Bombay mention to have had on the Island before their Recruits arriv'd from Europe is twice the number we have in this Garrison, and we cannot help being of Opinion that they might, and ought to have sent us a Reinforcement upon the Receipt of our Repeated Applications. The Secret Committee in the 10th Paragraph of their Commands to the Select Committee at Bombay dated 26th March 1754 recommend to them to send hither the whole Force sent out with Colo. Clive, in case the Project then concerted shou'd not be put into Execution, which might have added Weight to our Applications.

Without any Reason given they refuse to send us the Revenge, and have sent the Protector unarm'd. The Committee do not see the absolute necessity of so large a Sea force at this time at Bombay, and the Assistance of those two Ships properly equipp'd wou'd have been of most material use here as they wou'd have been able to perform all those Services at Bengal, which are now to be done by his Majesty's Squadron, by which means the whole Advantage of the Reprizals that might have been made upon the Moors woud have belong'd without dispute to the Company, who have now only the Chance of one half.

The Gunpowder landed from the Protector being found to be pack'd in Chests with Iron hoops & Nails, it is Ordered that fresh Packages be prepared for it as fast as possible, and that Proofs be made of it's Goodness, and Reported to the Committee.

Agreed that such Part of the Indent of Military Stores wanted at Bombay, as we can possibly spare be sent them by the first Conveyance.

Agreed to write an answer to the Select Committee at Bombay, conformable to the foregoing Paragraphs, but as our Request for a Reinforcement is press'd in the strongest Terms in our two last Letters, dated 24th August and 6th October, it is Resolv'd to add nothing more on that Subject, What we have already said being Sufficient for our Justification in all Circumstances.

The following Letter from Captain Caillaud Read.

To the Hoñble George Pigot Esqr.

President & Gentlemen of the Committee at Madras.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs No. 39.

My last letter was dated the 21st of September No. 38 In which I had the honor to inform you of Narrain's departure for Madura, from whom I have receiv'd three Letters, advising me of his Arrival, and what was done towards Settling the Affair. He informs me that he had already brought the Jemidars down from their first demand of four Lack and a half, to two Lack and a half. That he on his Side continued to offer but one Lack and a half, and that only to be paid on the arrival of Mahofoz Cawn, and themselves here, and our Seapoys again in the Fort. Thus far he had gone by his last letter, which he concludes by assuring me he has Reason to beleive it will soon be terminated, and I hope soon to have the Satisfaction of informing you of it.

I have sent in this month the account of Disbursements sign'd as directed by the Killedar. The Account Current for the Commissary is in a Seperate Sheet, as the Killedar has nothing I beleive to do with that. I have also transmitted a three month's Account of the Sale of the old Grain, which I hope will all be off of hand by the end of December.

It is not yet settled what is to be paid this year by the Renters, for the Trichenopoly Country. As soon as I can with certainty Inform you, I shall do it, that the share which the Hoñble Company is to receive may be Agreed on, The Countries will certainly pay more this Year, than the last; and if about two Lack cou'd be collected for the Company, It wou'd well go near to pay the expences, and Disbursements of this Garrison.

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[21st.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, OCTOBER 1756.*——

There is one Chubb who deserted from this Garrison, with two Serjeants in the month of November return'd. The two Serjeants, one he says went to Pondichery by Sea from Cochin, the other is some Where in the Madura Country. I have sent to enquire after him, and beg to be informed what shall be done with him who I have Prisoner.

Inclos'd with the accounts, I have the honor to transmit the monthly Returns.

I remain with great Respect
Honble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedient & most humble Servant
JOHN CAILLAUD.

Trichenopoly
4th October 1756.

Agreed that the Man mention'd by Captain Caillaud to have return'd from Desertion be put upon the Rolls.

Letter from the Nabob Read as enter'd No. 300 in the Book of Country Correspondence advising that he has sent Bills to Vakeel Antazey Punt for two hundred & twenty five thousand two hundred & fifty (225,250) Rupees on account of the second half of his Assignment of eight Lacks of Rupees to the Company out of the Arcot Countries the first half was due, and receiv'd in May last, the second half was due the 12th September, but no Part of it yet Paid.

The Bills now transmitted by the Nabob are on the following Accounts.

	Rupees.
On account of Nazeabulla Cawn, Renter of Saravapelly & Nellour	61,000–„–„
On acco[t]. of Meer Mahomed Japher Renter of Chettour	27,500–„–„
On account of Hamedally Cawn Renter of Condaporam	46,534–„–„
On Account of the same Hamedally Cawn Renter of Ponna	2,174–„–„
On Account of Mustead Cawn Renter of Solangavaram.	42,042 „–„
On account of Mahomed Kieredeen Renter of Mussere-vauck	35,500–„–„
On account of Saudetmund Cawn Killedar of Covre-pauck	2,500–„–„
Rupees.	225,250–„–„

Two hundred & twenty five thousand, two hundred & fifty Rupees, which compleats the second, and full Payment of their Respective Obligations.

The President acquaints the Committee that the Nabobs Vakeel has deliver'd him the said Bills which are as follow.

On the Ducan or House of Porshutum Doss.

	Rupees anas	
1 Bill payable 22d Oct[r]. for	16,000–	
1 Do 11 Nov[r].	51,603–15	
		Rup[s] 67,603–15–

On Buckunjee Cossedos his Ducan or house

	Rup[s] anas	
1 Bill payable 11th Nov[r]. for	120,807–15–	
1 Do Do	500 [*sic*]	
1 Do Do	7,763–15½	
1 Do Do	28,575–	
		157,646–1 –
	Rup[s].	225,250– , –

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, OCTOBER 1756.*—— [21st.]

And the President further acquaints the Committee that Shroff Linga Chitty has given him Notice that he is Ready to pay the following Sums on account of those Renters for whom he is Security Viz^{t}.

	Rupees.
On account of Royal Punt Renter of Terpasore Pagodas 25,000 valued at 375 Rup^{s} ₱ 100 pag^{ds}	93,750
On Account of Appazey Ninar Renter of the two Conjeverams & Malchery	57,000
On Account of Pushepenada Ninar Renter of Tervatore ...	24,000
Rupees	174,750

One hundred and Seventy four thousand Seven hundred and fifty Rupees which compleats the second and full Payment of their Respective Obligations, and in full of the eight * Lacks assign'd by the Nabob to the Company out of the Rents of the Arcot Country for the last Year of Phasely (ending 12th July last)

* Account of the 8 Lack			
Rece'd in May		400,000	
now Rece'd.			
from ye. Nabob	...	225,250	
Do Linga Chitty	...	174,750	
		——	400,000
	Rup^{s} ...		800,000

Letters from the Renter and Tasealdar of Terpetty Read, as enter'd in the Country Correspondence No. 292 & 293 advising that they have sent five Bills for twelve thousand (12,000) Pagodas & Seventeen thousand (17,000) Rupees in part Payment of the September or first Kist of the Present Year of Phasely 1166.

And the President acquaints the Committee that he has receiv'd the said Bills as follow.

				Pag^{ds}	
1 on Gocul Terwady payable	10th	Nov^{r}.	for ...	5000	
1 on Do		Do.	...	5250	
1 on Buckunjee Cossedoss		Do.	...	1750	Pagodas
				——	12,000
1 on Do.		Do.	for Rup^{s}	15,000	
1 on Governundoss	7th	Do.		2,000	Rupees
				——	17,000

Order'd that Report be made to the President and Council, of the Receipt of all the beforemention'd Bills, as well as of the Money due from Linga Chitty, that they may give Directions concerning it.

Letter from Tetarapa Moodillee Renter of Tinnevelly as enter'd in the Country Correspondence (No. 291) Read representing the Difficulty of his producing Securities at Madras and desiring that we will consent to their being accepted at Trichenopoly.

It is indifferent to the Committee where the Securities are given, so as they be fit and Responsible Persons, but that is a Circumstance which must be determin'd here, wherefore it is Agreed to write to Moodillee that he must acquaint the President with the Names of the Persons he has to offer, and where they reside, that Enquiry may be made into their Circumstances, as from which it will be determin'd whether they can be accepted or not.

Letter from Balazarow (the Nana or Chief of the Morrattas) Read, as enter'd No. 301, complaining of the Injustice done him by the Keeping Possession of Gheriah, and inclosing a Second Letter in a Seal'd Bag for the King of England which he desires may be forwarded.

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[21st.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, OCTOBER 1756.*——

Agreed that the Letter for the King of England be sent on the Chesterfield and that a Copy of Balazarow's Letter to the President be forwarded to the Select Committee at Bombay.

The Supracargo & Captain of the Snow Lapwing Burthen near three hundred Tons offering to freight that Vessel to the Company at the rate of two thousand, eight hundred (2,800) Rupees a month. Agreed that She be taken up two months from the 19th Instant.

And Resolved that two hundred Seapoys be embark'd on her & three hundred on the Protector, and that both Vessels be dispatch'd for Bengal, as soon as the necessary Quantity of Water can be put on board them.

Order'd that Letters for the Select Committee there, and for Colonel Clive be prepared to be sent them.

The President acquaints the Committee that the Vakeel of the Pollygar Bommerauze, has desir'd in his Masters Name that the Securities given for his Ballance of (70,000) Seventy thousand Rupees due to the Company, may be releas'd, promising that one quarter part shall be paid as soon as the Securities can be sent to his Master, and his Answer Receiv'd.

As the Securities in Question do not appear to be Responsible Persons it is Agreed to send them to Bommerauze with ten of the Company's Seapoys, and a Letter from his Vakeel, and another from the President, enlarging upon the favor that is Shown him & requiring him in the strongest Terms to make good the Promise of his Vakeel.

GEORGE PIGOT.

HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
ROBT. PALK.

Sent the following Letter to Captain Caillaud pursuant to the foregoing Resolution.

No. 42. TO CAPTAIN CAILLAUD.

Sir

We have receiv'd your Letter dated the 4th of this month, and hope soon to hear of the Success of your Endeavors to put an end to the Disturbance of Madura. We approve of the measures you advise that you have taken in that Affair in consequence of our Orders of 8th September.

You may put the Deserter Chubb in the Ranks as his Return appears to have been Voluntary.

We are Sir
Your most Obedt Servants
GEORGE PIGOT &ca Committee

Fort St George
23d October 1756.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

MONDAY THE 25TH.

GEORGE PIGOT ESQR.	GOVERNOR PRESIDENT
STRINGER LAWRENCE	HENRY POWNEY
ROBERT ORME	—— „ ——.
ROBERT PALK	MR. PERCEVAL *indisposed.*

The 5th Paragraph of the Letter from the Secret Committee of the East India Company dated 13th February 1754, relating to the Negociation to be carried on with the King of Mysore for the delivering up of Trichenopoly to him on his Paying the whole of the Nabob's Debt to the Company, being now Read and considered, it appears to the Committee that whatever might be the King of Mysore's Design at the time, when his Vakeel Vencatrow deliver'd to Mr. Saunders the proposals enter'd

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, OCTOBER 1756.*—— [25m.]

on the Minutes of the Consultation Book of Extraordinary Occurrences, the 13th May 1754 there is very little Room to hope that he wou'd now enter into such Engagements. First, because by the last accounts from Mysore the Province was involved in Troubles & Confusion, the young King being imprison'd by his Uncles. Secondly, because his Treasures have been much deminish'd by the large Drafts made twice by the Morattas, and once by Salabat Jung, & Thirdly, because the Nabob's Debt to the Company which was represented to Vencatrow at the time of his delivering the Proposals to thirty or thirty five Lacks, is now increas'd to near Sixty Lacks. It has indeed always been a Doubt whether Vencatrow was even intrusted by the King to make such Proposals, or whether the King wou'd even then have given his Consent, and it is now as great a Doubt whether he wou'd be able to furnish the Money although he were inclined to engage in the Treaty.

Colo. Lawrence & Mr Palk who at this Time were at Trichenopoly, and empower'd to treat with Nandirajah the Mysore Dolloway on the same Plan, declare that tho' they sent frequent messages to him; He appear'd very averse to their Proposals, his General method of answering them being a long Recapitulation of his Expedition, and a Demand of the surrender of the Fort, or the Payment of his Expences—once he propos'd to make good to the Company, what they had expended about Trichenopoly only which was then a small Sum; and afterwards wou'd receive no more Messages, which induces them to believe that the Proposals of Vencatrow were never dictated from Mysore, and they are more confirm'd in this Opinion, as about that time a trifling Bill drawn by the Vakeel on his Master, for his Expences, was refus'd Payment.

Considering therefore the little Room there is to hope that a Treaty with the King of Mysore founded on the Proposals made by Vencatrow the 13th May 1754 cou'd now be concluded and excuted [*sic*]; the Committee are of Opinion it wou'd be imprudent to alarm the minds of the Nabob and the King of Tanjour with the Apprehensions of the Cession of Trichenopoly, by Publickly making their Offer from the Board, at a time when the Prospect of any Good resulting is very doubtful.

But Mr. Orme offering conformably to the Secret Committee's Directions to proceed upon this Negociation if the Board think fit, or to write to Mysore, so as to discover what hopes there may be of Success, he is desir'd to write in his own Name to Vencatrow to sound him upon the Proposals formerly deliver'd to Mr. Saunders: And if by Means of that Correspondence it shall appear that the Mysore Court, is inclin'd to treat upon those Proposals, and is in a Capacity to pay the Company's Debt, it is Resolv'd in Compliance with the Directions of the Secret Committee to proceed forthwith to treat with the King of Mysore upon the Plan laid down in Consultation 13th May 1754, or one as nearly Similar as Circumstances will admit of.

It is however to be remark'd that the Cessions to be made to the King of Mysore are now of much more Worth to the Company, than At the time Vencatrow made his proposals; Madura and Tinnevelly Countries (which are included in the Cessions) having since been recover'd, and their Possession being now so well establish'd, that unless some unforeseen Accident Shoud happen, they are likely to bring in a Constant Revenue of Six Lack to the Nabob and Six to the Company. In case the Mysorean shou'd object to the increase of the Company's Debt, this may be urg'd in answer.

It being found impossible to provide a Sufficient Quantity of Casks for the Water necessary to put on board the Ship Protector & Lapwing Snow for the Number of five hundred Seapoys intended to be sent on them to Bengal, It is Agreed that as much Water as possible be put on Board them immediately and a proportionable Number of Seapoys embark'd. And Ordered that they be dispatch'd with the utmost Expedition, the Season growing extremely Late.

The number of Seapoys remaining here, being very large, and many of them new Men, and not having a Sufficiency of Arms for them, it is Order'd that a General Muster of them be made, and such discharg'd as appear to be most unserviceable.

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[25th.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, OCTOBER 1756.*——

Letter from the King of Tanjour Read, as enter'd N°. 308, in the Country Correspondence recapitulating what we formerly wrote on the Subject of Dispute with the Danes, who he says were the Cause of the Disturbance, and adding, that Damages were done on both sides, and therefore he cannot make good theirs, unless they do his, Ordered that a Copy of this Letter be sent to the Gentlemen at Tranquebar.

The President acquaints the Committee that by a Letter from Governor Krog of Tranquebar he is inform'd that our Packet for the Secret Committee reach'd in time to be Sent by their Ship for Europe, and that the Commander has Directions to send it ashore by any Boat that may come off to him in the Channel.

Order'd that a Letter for the Secret Committee containing a full account of all Occurrences Since the Departure of the Eastcourt be prepar'd to be sent on the Ship Chesterfield.

GEORGE PIGOT.

HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
ROBT PALK.

Sent the following Letter to the Governor & Council of Tranquebar pursuant to the foregoing Resolution.

TO THE HOÑBLE HANS GEORGE KROG ESQR.
GOVERNOR, & THE GENTLEMEN OF THE
COUNCIL OF TRANQUEBAR.

Gentlemen

In the Letter we had the honor to write you the 25th. of last month, we acquainted you that we had address'd the King of Tanjour in your Behalf, and we now inclose you the Copy of the answer we receiv'd from him.

By the contents of the said answer you will perceive Gentlemen that he will by no means consent to make you any Acknowledgment or Reparation on his own Part, he mentions that he offer'd to oblige the Pollygar Permaul Naiker to satisfy his Debts to you, and this he will undoubtedly Still be ready to do.

We therefore recommend to You to transmit to the King of Tanjour a Statement of your Demands upon the said Polligar, desiring him to cause Justice to be done you.

And we fear no further Advantages can at this time be procur'd for your Company; whenever any Opportunity shall offer we shall be ready to exert ourselves for your Service. We remain with Esteem & Consideration

Gentlemen
Your most Obedient
humble Servants
GEORGE PIGOT &c. COMMITTEE.

Fort St. George
25th October 1756.

Letters to the Committee of Bengal & to Robert Clive Esqr. to be Sent on the Protector and Lapwing Snow, Sign'd as follow.

TO THE HOÑBLE ROGER DRAKE ESQR.
PRESIDENT & GOVERNOR AND THE GENTLEMEN
APPOINTED TO BE OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE AT BENGAL.

Gentlemen

Inclos'd is Duplicate of our Letter of the 13th Inst which went by the hands of Colonel Clive; The whole Force therein mention'd sail'd out of this Road the 16th, and we hope will meet with a Speedy Passage.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, OCTOBER 1756.*—— [27TH.]

We have since taken up the Snow Lapwing to be employ'd in the Company's service for two months, from the 19th Instant at the Rate of 2,800 Rupees a month.

Inclos'd are the Returns of the Seapoys embark'd on board her, and the Protector, both which we now dispatch to you giving orders to the Commanders to follow the Directions they shall receive from you.

As soon as you Gentlemen, & Colonel Clive Shall Judge that the Protector's Service is no longer necessary you will please to return her hither that we may dispatch her back to Bombay before the Season is too late.

We omitted in our last letter to mention that on the first news of the Taking of Calcutta, we wrote to the Great Mogul representing the Injustice that was done us, and requesting him to appoint another Nabob to govern the Province of Bengal, & to give his Orders that the Company be restor'd to the Possession of all the Rights & Priviledges granted them by his Predecessor. We wrote also at the same time to Balazarow (the Nanna or Chief General of the Morrattas) and to Salabat Jung.

We are Gentlemen,
Your most Obedient
humble Servants
GEORGE PIGOT &CA. COMMITTEE

Fort St. George
27th October 1756.

To ROBERT CLIVE ESQR.

Sir

Since your Departure we have taken the Snow Lapwing into the Company's Service for two months from the 19th Instant at the Rate of 2800 Rupees a month, and we now dispatch her and the Protector with the Seapoys mention'd in the inclos'd Return, we shou'd have embark'd a larger Number, cou'd we have procur'd a Sufficient Quantity of Water Casks.

Inclos'd is Copy of the Letter we now write to the Gentlemen of the Committee, also Invoice of the Stores &ca. which you carried with you and of which you was then only furnish'd with Lists; Copies of the Invoices must be given to the Gentlemen at Bengal.

No other Vessels as yet offer for Freight, and the Season is now too late So that we can hardly expect to see any more. This therefore is the only Reinforcement you can depend on.

Messrs. Griffith, & Powney, the Supracargo and Captain of the Lapwing have been paid one Month's Freight here, The other you are account for with them.

We are Sir
Your most Obedt. Servants
GEORGE PIGOT &CA. COMMITTEE

Fort St. George
27th October 1756.

The Snow Lapwing having receiv'd on board one hundred Seapoys, which are as many as can be furnish'd with Water for the Passage, delivered Capt. Powney his Dispatch as follows.

To CAPTAIN WILLIAM POWNEY
OF THE LAPWING SNOW. 28TH.

Sir

You are hereby directed to make the best of your way to the River of Bengal, and deliver the accompanying Letter to the Gentlemen of the Committee there whose Orders you are to follow untill the Expiration of your Contract with the Company. Dated in Fort St. George the 28th. October 1756.

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[29TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, OCTOBER 1756.*——

The Honble Company's Ship Protector having Receiv'd on board one hundred & Fifty Seapoys which are as many as can be furnish'd with Water for the Passage, Deliver'd Captain England his Dispatch as follows.

To CAPTAIN GEORGE ENGLAND
OF THE PROTECTOR

Sir

You are hereby directed to make the best of your way to the River of Bengal, and deliver the accompanying Letter to the Gentlemen of the Committee there, whose Orders you are to follow for your future Proceedings. Dated in Fort St. George the 29th October 1756.

[30TH.] Captain Hislop deliver'd the President a Return of the Proof of the Powder receiv'd by the Ship Protector as follows.

A Return of the Proof of Gheria Powder at Fort St. George 27th Oct. 1756.

10 Inch Mortar charged with 2 lib. Powder.	Different Fireings.	Range Yards.	Medium Yards.	Europe made Yards.
Coarse	1	206	102	...
	2	83		
	3	65		
	4	72		
	5	83		
	6	105		
Medium	1	309	233	...
	2	293		
	3	117		
	4	216		
	5	192		
	6	270		
Fine	1	530	391	...
	2	437		
	3	250		
	4	237		
	5	490		
	6	402		

The mortar elevated at 45 Degrees.

WILLM. HISLOP

The Weight of the Shell 96 lib.

N.B., 2 lib. of the Powder made at Madras throws the Shell upon a Medium 949 Yards.

Sign'd the following Letter to the Select Committee at Bombay, wrote in pursuance of the Resolutions made the 21st October.

To THE HONBLE RICHARD BOURCHIER ESQR.
PRESIDENT AND GOVERNOR, AND THE
GENTLEMEN OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE AT BOMBAY.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

We wrote you by Pattamar the 6th of last month and now inclose a Duplicate of that Letter.

On the 11th the Protector arrived and brought us your favor of the 12th September with the 6 Brass Six pounder field Pieces, and the Gheriah Powder you was pleas'd to send us.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, OCTOBER 1756.*—— [30th.]

In our Letter of 7th May we desir'd the Gheriah Powder might be sent us if good, but not otherwise. Inclos'd is a Return of the Proof we have had made, by which you will see how ill it answers the description; the best of it throwing the Shot about one third part of the proper Distance, the worst of it not one tenth part, We have besides to remark to you that it came in chests naild down with Iron Nails, and bound with Iron hoops, and many of the Chests had the Seams so open, that the Powder found a Passage out, so that it was with the greatest Risque it was put on board, and taken out of the Ship.

As the very best of this Powder will not serve even for Salutes it is of no kind of use to us, and as we have been under a necessity of Sending a large quantity to Bengal, and have eight or ten considerable Garrisons to supply, we find it impossible to make a Sufficiency here. We must therefore again request that you will assist us with as much as you can possibly Spare.

We were in hopes of receiving a Reinforcement from you, at least a part of the Artillery Companies, on the Protector as our Letters of the 13th & 14th July advising of our first Detachment for Bengal had reach'd you.

Admiral Watson sail'd with the whole Squadron for Bengal the 16th Instant having on board Colᴸ. Clive with above 800 Land forces, Officers included.

Our force remaining here of the King's and Company's Military and Train does not amount to the half of the number which you mention to have had in your Garrison before the arrival of your Supplies from Europe.

You can no doubt produce sufficient Proofs of the necessity of your detaining so large a body of men at your place, notwithstanding the repeated Applications made to you by us, and notwithstanding the Secret Committee's Orders to you in their Letter of the 26th March 1755 the 10th Para.

"If contrary to our Wishes and Expectations you find the Morrattas untrac-
"table and that no Dependence can be made on their concurring in the most
"essential parts of the Plan propos'd, your next Consideration must be how to dispose
"of the Artillery with the [*a word lost*] and Men which shou'd have been employed in
"the Expedition, so as to render them of the greatest use that can be in support of
"the Company's Affairs on the Choromandel Coast. We think the best way in that
"case will be to send them all directly round to that Coast excepting such part of
"the Artillery as you may think necessary to keep."

Again in the 17th Para.

"If contrary to our Expectations the Expedition does not take place, then you
"are to observe the Directions given in the 10th Para."

The President lately receiv'd a Letter from the Nana, of which inclos'd is a Copy. He wrote him in answer that as you had acquainted us with your Intention of sending a Gentleman to his Court we did not doubt but every thing was amicably Settled. His two Letters for the King of England will be forwarded on the Chesterfield.

Inclos'd is the account you desire of Garrison Batta, paid to the King's Artillery. Also Copy of the Company's Direction receiv'd this Year on that Subject.

It being judged necessary to send as many Seapoys as Possible for the Service of the Expedition to Bengal we are now dispatching the Protector with three hundred; we have desir'd she may be sent up hither so soon as the Company's Service will permit, and we Shall then return her to You.

You wou'd have done a very important Service to the Company if you had thought proper to send us the Protector mann'd and fitted for War accompanied with the Revenge as we desir'd, for these two Ships wou'd have been capable of performing all the Services requir'd from the men of War, and the Company wou'd by that means have had the advantage of all the Reprizals that cou'd have been made, to

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[3d.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, NOVEMBER 1756.*——

compensate for their heavy Losses. Now the most they will get is one half which is to be deposited for his Majesty's Pleasure in consequence of the Representations which we made to Mr. Watson on that Subject.

Such part of your Indent for Military Stores as we can possibly spare shall be sent you by the first Opportunity.

We are Gentlemen
Your most Obedt. hble. Servants

Fort St George.
3d Novemr 1756.

George Pigot &ca Committee.

At a Committee

Present

TUESDAY THE 9TH.

George Pigot Esqr. Governor President
Stringer Lawrence — Henry Powney
Robert Orme — William Perceval
Robert Palk.

The following Letters from Captain Caillaud Read.

No. 40. To the Honble George Pigot Esqr. President & Governor &c. Gentlemen of the Committee at Madras.

Honble Sir & Sirs.

On the 14th of last month, I had the honor of addressing the Governor, and Informing him how affairs then stood at Madura and my hopes that they wou'd be speedily determined. But every day since that time, brought me accounts that baulked my expectations, and seemed to remove every thing further from an accommodation, this oblig'd me to take Steps for which (however the Success may prove) I must humbly beg your Pardons, as it was expressly against your Instructions, when you were pleas'd to honor me with the Command of this Place; that I shou'd not absent myself from my charge without your orders, & leave. Yet I took the Liberty for a Week to go to Natom, there to give a meeting to Usoff Cawn, If he cou'd leave the army with prudence for three days, and also to the Dubash Narrian, that by hearing from them really how affairs stood, which by their Letters was difficult to do, I might the better be enabled to Judge from their opinions & my own, what shou'd be pursued. I will beg your Patience while I give you a more particular detail of Affairs there, from the time Narrain went, to my setting out for Nattom, with my motives for so doing, and what has been since the Consequence of that Step.

When Narrain arrived at Madura he found Mahofoz Cawn in a disposition that promis'd little Success from applying to him, or that he wou'd use his endeavors to finish the disturbance. He insisted that it was great Injustice in his Brother to give the Country from him, that he was willing to give the Company as much as their present Renter, and also Security; that in short he cou'd not think of leaving Madura, without those terms were complied with. Narrain then changed his Method, and applied to the Jemidars, and told them he was come to pay them their Arrears on the delivery of Madura Fort; that if they wou'd let Usoff Cawn march in with his Seapoys, they wou'd receive fifty thousand Rupees on the Spot, the Remainder some time after; On this offer, the Jemidars went to the Camp and desir'd the Nellour to be Security for these conditions and promis'd on their side that they wou'd stand to their Agreement. Narrain and Usoff Cawn Immediately inform'd me of this, my Answer was, that I approv'd so far of what they had done, that on the Fort being given up 50 thousand Rupees shou'd be paid: but at the same time with this

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, NOVEMBER 1756.*—— [9ms.]

Restriction that Mahofoz Cawn & Barkatoolah shou'd both be in the Fort when we came to take Possession. For if either, or both, as it was probable on the Knowledge of such an Agreement wou'd or might attempt to make their escape, and if once effected the troubles were not likely to be soon finished, while those two men were not in our power, every thing at this Rate was agreed to, fifty thousand on the delivery of the Fort, the other Lack and a half by Bills payable in 30 days, when the Jemidars had dispers'd, and evacuated the Country, & Mahofoz Cawn & Barkatoolah in our Power.

Moodille was wrote to, for to have the money ready, which he promis'd day after day. The money was coming sometimes by Bills, sometimes by his Brother or his Vakeel, these delays gave Mahofoz Cawn & Barkatoolah time, with the Assistance and advice of one Seer Cawn a Jemidar, to tamper with the Jemidars we had agreed with. In short the money not coming Immediately, they persuaded them, we were only amusing, and by large Promises of what shou'd be done for them, if by their means he cou'd get the Country, Mahofoz Cawn & Barkatoolah got the Jemidars from their first Resolutions, took no notice of Narrains offers, and a party marched from Madura towards Tinnevelly which Katabominaigue was to Join and along with him all the Cavalry about 700 left behind in that Country by Mahofoz Cawn. The Dubash Narrain went to Mahofoz Cawn, & represented to him in the strongest Terms he cou'd, the injustice of his Proceedings, but he cou'd receive no other answer but that he must have the Country on the terms he offer'd, and then he wou'd do, as we pleased. Meerta Jeerden who was sent to him from the Nabob, to try what he cou'd do, had no better Success in all he cou'd represent. I receiv'd this Account with many Circumstances more from Usoff Cawn of the danger the Tinnavelly Country was in. That all the Pollygars were rising, and to be Join'd by the Cavalry already in the Country, and those sent from Madura who threatned to do all the mischief in their Power; which he was affraid they wou'd be able to execute, as Moodille had divided our Seapoys; and desiring I wou'd immediately send him directions how to act, whether to stay where he was, or to march and prevent the trouble he was apprehensive of in the Tinnevelly Country. I had some reason to think affairs were not so bad, and the Circumstances somewhat exagerated. To be better able to Judge I sent him word to meet me at Natom, if he with prudence thought he might leave his Army, and Narrain to be with him. As I had a longer Journey to make I set out immediately the 23^{d} and arriv'd at Natom the 25$^{th.}$ An hour after the Dubash and Meerta Jeerdeen arrived. The Nellour wou'd not venture as he had no one to leave with whom he thought he cou'd trust the Command, and hostilities again had begun. I have ommitted to inform you, that I took with me Buckunjee's Agent at this place, with money In case my Arrival shou'd produce any Change in Affairs. After Narrain had inform'd me of every thing I wanted to know, I thought it best to send him immediately back with Buckunjee's Agent with a final Offer to Mahofoz Cawn, whether he wou'd on Payment of the Troops, give up the Fort, and come with me to Trichenopoly. That I wou'd wait where I was for him, and attend him to that Place. Meerta Jeerdeen inform'd me also that Barkatoolah's fear of being hardly used by the Nabob, either in his Person, or effects was a great retardment to the affair being ended, but that if he had Assurances to the Contrary (he had declar'd so much to him) that he wou'd do what the Honble Company pleas'd to order. I therefore wrote to him assuring him I wou'd venture to promise, to be his Security between him & the Nabob; and that if he wou'd leave Madura, and come to Trichenopoly he shou'd neither be hurt, in person or family.

Narrain arriv'd at Madura made my Proposals. Both the Nabob's Brother and Barkatoolah were Satisfied, and my letters quieted the Apprehensions of the latter, and made the former more Inclin'd to hear reason. He ordered every thing to be got ready to come and meet me, but the Monsoon breaking prevented him. But finding he said by my Journey that the Honble Company whom he cou'd trust Interested themselves in the Affair he cou'd with them come to any Agreement they pleas'd. He therefore ordered one of his Jemidars to come to me with Proposals he had to offer, which be hop'd wou'd be thought reasonable; and then before the

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[9th.] ——— *FORT ST. GEORGE, NOVEMBER 1756.* ———

Dubash, he took his Oath on the Alcoran, that he wou'd on his Part do what he had promis'd. The same Weather which prevented his coming to meet me, at Natom, drove me from thence, having hardly Shelter, and apprehensive if it continued, as likely it might at this Season, the Roads might be so bad as to prevent my coming to Trichenopoly So soon as I thought was proper. Narrain, the Jemidar, & Meerta jeerdeen Set out from Madura after me, the former arriv'd Yesterday, the other two I expect every minute.

In general these are Mahofoz Cawns Proposals. That in Consideration of his Birth some Provision may be Insured him for his Support, as he is quite destitute of means to live. He therefore desires any Place in the Nabob's Dominions may be appointed him for his Residence, from which Place, and the Revenues belonging to it, he may be allowed two Lack of Rupees yearly for his Maintainance. But as he is Sorry to say, he cannot trust his brother, he must have the Company Security between him, & the Nabob for that yearly maintainance; It is all equal to him where it is, wherever the Nabob or the Company shall think proper. That if this is Agreed to, and the Troops paid as offer'd, two Lack of Rupees for their Arrears due to them; he will immediately quit the Fort of Madura, to the Honible Company, and come where they will please to order. He further hopes in Consideration of his having been oblig'd to sell everything he had, to satisfy in Part the demands of his Troops that 20,000 Rupees will be allow'd him for that Loss. But this he leaves to the Honible Company's Generosity, these are as I have said before are his Offers in General. The Particulars when I hear them from the Jemidar I Shall immediately transmit.

I make no doubt but this business can easily be adjusted. A Place for his Residence, I am inclined to think may be found, where he may enjoy what he asks, without being of any more trouble to us, or his Brother. Suppose it was Trichenopoly, from the Revenues of which he may be allow'd what he asks; But this I submit to your better Judgements. Barkatoolah is also Satisfied If Security can be given him for his Person & fortune, & will come where ordered.

I have the honor to inform you the Jemidar has just left me; what he says is almost a Repitition of what before I have acquainted you with. That Mahofoz Cawn will have nothing to say to his Brother, but if the Honible Company will please to order him any place of Residence, and a Revenue annexed to it, Secur'd to him by them, there he will Stay. My answer was that I wou'd lay the whole before you, but that if he expected any favors, he must give this first proof of his Sincerity. To recall all his Disbanded Troops from Tinnavelly, to write Circular Letters to the Pollygars there not to make use of his name, on Pretext to make disturbances in the Country, for that he has relinquished all Right & title to it, and acknowledge the Company, by the Nabob's Phirmaund, have the sole and only right to it, for a term of Years. In return I have promis'd him when I know this done, the troops returned, & the Pollygars he has wrote to, quiet, that Usoff Cawn with his Army shall remove out of the Madura Country, untill your Pleasures are known on his offers.

Thus far affairs are settled, but there is something of more Consequence to be well regulated in order to establish perfect tranquility in those Parts. It is a good understanding between the Commander of your Troops and Renter Which as yet does not subsist in Spite of all my Efforts. This arrises in the Nellour from a Zeal which I cannot help thinking is a little interrested as it is too forward. However money at present is the Dispute. Moodille says he is only by his Agreement with you oblig'd to pay that Number of Troops which he fixed upon as necessary the 10 Companies now with him at Tinnavelly, but that if he advances more on account of Troops being kept up on exigencies like the last, that that expence is to be passed in his Accounts with you; the Nellour urges the contrary.

You will see by my letter to Usoff Cawn that I was vexed at Jemalsaib's Indiscreet proceeding, As I think indeed it was much so. I hope that mistake is now rectified by my letter, and that Usoff Cawn will not have reason to complain for want of money. When Moodille comes to settle, & give in his Accounts, you may

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, NOVEMBER 1756.*—— [9mo]

be, Gentlemen better Judges of his honesty, I think him still an honest man from a Principle which sways greatly with those Country People that it is not his Interest to be otherwise. I remain with great Respect

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obedt. hble. Servant

Trichenopoly
2d. Novr. 1756. JOHN CAILLAUD.

Translation of Tetarapa Moodilles Letter dated Tinnavelly 4th. October Receiv'd the 11th. Octr. 1756.

You must by this time receiv'd my last Letter and have seen in it what has happen'd here, My Vakeel must also have told you the same, I came from Natom thro' the Morravar Country, (the Roads near Madura not being safe) and arriv'd at Usoff Cawns Camp, after I had spoke with him I Set out and arriv'd at Tinnevelly, Mahofoz Cawn on Purpose to give me Disturbance wrote several Letters to the King of Trevancore, To some Polligars as also to the Merchants and Inhabitants of this Place, I have suffer'd a good deal in Consequence of those Letters. To prevent any further mischiefs and Disturbance I thought it necessary to have some Polligars in my Side, to which Purpose I Sent for Katabominaigue and the Pullitaver to meet me; they came, and after having regulated a certain Quantity of Colleries in my Service I dismissed them, & the rest, of their being sent for here I have given you advice, those who were before employ'd in this Business thought it a proper time for them to think of themselves, and they have Ommitted no means to get what Money they cou'd out of the Inhabitants, which is the Reason that few hands have been at Work, and that neglect has occasion'd the Rains to break thro' all the Tanks, for repairing of which I advanced 50,000 Rupees, now the Ground is all sown & the Country in a Flourishing condition, I must yet advance 50,000 Rupees more to the Inhabitants, that I may lose nothing by the Country.

I have sent for all the Merchants of this Place, about the Security, they told me they had Correspondents at Trichenopoly, but none at Madras, You know very well what you and I said about it when I was with you at that Place, and trust entirely to your Goodness about the Affair, that the Security and the money may be receiv'd at Trichenopoly instead of Madras. As Mahomet Usoff Cawn has sent me word he has no Money for the Expences of his Army, I told him I paid regularly the Seapoys that were in this Country, but however I sent him 30,000 Rups. he has wrote me again for more Money, as he is involved in a great deal of Business, I have got together 20,000 Rupees more to send him, Now in case he wants more, what must I do, I have got no Order from you to give money to him, or from the Hoñble Governor, I desire the favor of you to let me know how I Shall conduct myself in this Affair.

My answer to the Above Letter.

I receiv'd yesterday your Letter, I am well acquainted with Mahofoz Cawn's Proceedings but before you receive this, every thing relating to that Business, will I hope be Settled, and that you will receive no more trouble from that Quarter.

You must soon be repaid the Money you have advanced to the Inhabitants, It was wisely done for your own Good, & the Interest of the Hoñble Company's Affairs. They will also I dare say be well Satisfied with the Steps you have taken towards making a Friendship with the Polligars.

With regard to Mahomed Usoff Cawn you must make no difficulty to supply him with money for his Troops while he stays in the Country, for what he is now doing for the Service of your Country. The Hoñble Company will no doubt make you all proper & Reasonable Allowance for this Extraordinary Expence, and for which Reason, and untill we can be honor'd with their Orders & Directions You must observe in their Letter to you of the 8th September, in which they say that the Ballances which are due from the Country to Mahofoz Cawn and which they had ordered you to collect, and pay in to me, as I am to find Money for the Arrears due to Mahofoz

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[9mo.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, NOVEMBER 1756.*——

Cawn's Troops; Now I take it upon me and this will be your Security (until we have further Orders from the the Honble Company) that you may apply that Money to the present Expences of Mahomed Usoff Cawn.

Besides that Expence there will be also some ready Money wanted by Narrain and Mahomet Usoff Cawn, Perhaps two Lack, and in that same Letter from the Governor he promises it shall be allowed to you out of this years Rent; now it is upon the immediate Payment of this Sum that the good Order and Tranquility of the Country depends. Therefore you must contrive and raise it for the Honble Company altho' you may not have receiv'd so much yet, from the first and Second Payments of the Cor Padde Crop, yet as you are a man of Interest and Credit, your Word will be Sufficient for more than that sum and which you can repay when you receive the last Payment of this Crop, you may also allow them for advancing the money the common Country Interest. You must manage this Affair for your Character's Sake, and your good name, that you may give Proof to the Company of your Zeal for their Service. With regard to the Security which you have promis'd to the Honble Company, and with regard also to the Payment of the Money here, or at Madras, I will immediately write to the Governor and inform him what you say on the Subject. I dare say if he thinks what you propose Reasonable, & right, he will readily agree to it.

A Copy of Usoff Cawn's Letter dated at Chicquendamaly the 27th October 1756. Rece'd. the 28th and answer'd directly.

'Tis some time since I receiv'd a Letter from the Honble Governor directing me to draw on the Moodelair for the whole Expence of the Army, Pay, Batta &ca beginning from the 12th July, and likewise to demand Securities from him. Agreable thereto, I Sent Bassopa Naick to him and wrote to Jemaul Saib to the same Effect. They both went to the Moodilee and asked him for the Payment, he answer'd them that he did not care to disburse any for the Expences and wrote me no answer with regard to the Securities, he has paid one months Pay only to the Seapoys at Tinnevelly, for which reason our People are very Importunate with him for Money. I beg you will inform me whether or no I am to receive the [money ?] from him, If I am to demand the Securities and in what Manner I am to act at this Place. I wrote to the Serjeants to talk with the Moodelair about this Affair. Their answer to me I enclose you, I thought it necessary likewise to acquaint you that the Moodelair has contracted a Friendship with many of the Polligars.

Copy of the Serjeant's Letter.

Sir,

I have done my Endeavor according to your Orders, Jemaul Saib asked three Months Pay & Batta for the use of the Honble Companys Troops, the Moodelair says that he has orders from Madras to pay only ten Company's of Seapoys, what Kawn Saib has left under his Command and what he has in Camp, he will not Pay, Jemaul Saib with Bassopa Naick have confin'd the Moodelair untill they hear from you.

Your humble Servants &ca.

Sign'd Thos Harris.
Richd Jeffry's.
Saml. Underwood.
Richd. Soulthorp.
John McKain.
Joseph Johnson.

Copy of my Answer to Usoff Cawn's Letter.

Dated 28th October 1756.

This Instant I receiv'd your Letter and am extremely sorry that Jemaul Saib has been oblig'd to proceed to Extremities with the Moodelair I know not what the

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, NOVEMR. 1756.*—— [9m

Honble Governor may think of it & fear he has been too hasty in this Affair, the Moodelair never appear'd to me to make any Difficulty's about the Payment of the Troops (that is) of the ten Companys under Jemaul Saib's command and for those which are under your Orders he did not know, whether he ought to pay them, and wrote to me for Directions on that head, I immediately wrote him that he shou'd pay them for the Present, and that he might place it to the Honble Company's Account, untill we knew from Madras what Regulations had been made there, he also wrote me, that he cou'd not negociate his Securities between Madras and Tinnavelly but that he coud between the Merchants from Trichenopoly to Tinnavelly, that he shoud likewise find great Difficulties in making Remittances as he had promis'd from Tinnavelly to Madras, But that he coud easily do it from Tinnavelly to Trichenopoly.

Upon this, I wrote to the Honble Governor to know his Pleasure, but have not yet been favor'd with an answer this accident gives me much Concern and I wish the Honble Company's Interest may not suffer by it.

I enclose you an Order on the Moodelair to furnish Money for the immediate Payment of the Troops under your Command, and wou'd advise you not to give him any Trouble on Account of the Arrears due, untill we receive Directions from the Honble Governor & Council which will serve to regulate our future conduct and I beg that when you send him the order you will at the same time give Directions to Jemaul Saib to set him at Liberty, If he shoud refuse to comply with the order I have sent him, You are then to draw on me, for the immediate Subsistence of your Troops. Tomorrow I return to Trichenopoly where I Shall lay every thing before the Honble Governor, and then we may expect Orders, which will make all these Difficultys cease.

To Terapah [*sic*] Moodille.

It is very extraordinary that after the answer I sent to your Letter in which you asked me whether you were to furnish money for the expences of Usoff Cawn (which if you remember was, that I made no doubt but that the Honble Company woud make you Allowances for this Extraordinary Expence) that you don't mind my Letter, and that you have Been Stopped in your house. I am very sorry that has happen'd, and I now send an immediate order for your Release, but at the same time, in Consequence of the Orders you have receiv'd to follow my Directions, I order you to pay the Subsistance of the Troops under Usoff Cawn, besides the ten Companys you have with you in the Country, and you may be assur'd that all the Agreements you have made with the Honble Governor will be inviolably kept on his Side, and that you will have Leave to place to Account the Money you may advance to Usoff Cawn, mind this Letter and do as I desire you.

From the foregoing Letters it appears to the Committee that the Affairs of the Madura and Tinnevelly Countries are in a very perplex'd Situation. Mahofoz Cawn on one hand Ripe for Rebellion and offering to Submit only on such terms as it will be difficult to comply with; on the other, a great want of money for the Payment of the Companies Seapoys under Usoff Cawn, who by too hasty a Zeal has Subjected the Renter on that Account to a Disgrace which may hurt his Credit, and by that means render him incapable of furnishing the Supplies which this Disgrace was intended to hasten. Before any Resolution can be made it will be necessary to be informed particularly of the Situation and Circumstances of every Party concerned, from whence we may Judge how far it is necessary to consent to Such Terms as Mahofoz Cawn proposes for himself; and as a Personal Interview with Captain Caillaud will be the quickest and most efficacious Method of obtaining this necessary Information It is Agreed to direct him to come immediately to Madras, Leaving the charge of the Garrison to Captain Smith & first sending Directions to Usoff Cawn to draw upon Tetrapa Moodille for the Money he may have absolute and immediate Occasion for, and to Tetrapa Moodille to answer Usoff Cawn's Drafts.

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[9ber.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, NOVEMR. 1756.*——

Agreed also to write to the Nabob concerning Mahofoz Cawn's Demands desiring his Opinion whether they shou'd be granted or not and what Place he thinks adviseable to assign for his Residence and Subsistence.

The President acquaints the Committee that the fifty eight Garce & a quarter of damaged Paddy lying at Changleput being sold for Pagodas one thousand four hundred & twenty eight, and Seventeen fanams (1428 : 17:) the merchant is ready to pay the Amount. Ordered that Report be made to the President and Council that they may give Directions concerning it.

Letter from Roger Drake Esqr. &ca Gentlemen at Fulta, Read as follows.

To the Honble George Pigot Esqr.
President & Governor &ca Council at Fort St. George.

Honble Sir & Sirs.

Inclos'd is Duplicate of our address under date the 18th Ulto., Since which we have receiv'd advices from Cazimbuzar that we think proper to communicate to your Honor &ca with our Sentiments & Resolution thereon.

Mr. Warren Hastings one of the Honble Company's Covenanted Servants at Cazimbuzar and now detain'd at that Place by the Nabob writes Major Kilpatrick to the following Purport, that Suraja Dowlat is no longer Subah of Bengal which is conferr'd upon the King of Delly's eldest son, that the Nabob of Purnea (Soukat Jung) has receiv'd a Phirmaund from the King investing him with the Nabobship of Bengal, Bahar and Orixa under his son, and great Preparations are making at Muxadavad for a War with Purnea in consequence of the foregoing Appointments, that the Nabob of Bannaras has sent 6000 Horsemen to the assistance of Soukat Jung, that most of the Rajahs whose Territories lie near Purnea have deserted Sourajah Dowlat, and that on the 29th of last month a Letter arriv'd from the Dutch Chief at Patna with advice that the King with his Son and Vizier was upon his march this way at the head of a Formidable Army, having cross'd the River Jumna 20 days before with an intention first to reduce these Provinces to his Obedience and afterwards to visit all the other Parts of his Dominions that the Morrattas likewise are expected soon, It being reported they have imprisoned the Person sent to pay them their annual Chout, with which they are not contented, and that Mizzah Sallah the Nabob of Cuttack, has Join'd them, That the Nabob begins to be much troubled at the impending dangers, and his Jummidars seem not very inclinable to serve him with that Zeal which his present desperate Circumstances require, against their King, as they may expect to be treated like Rebels, most of the principal of them having a great part of their Fortunes, and some their Families at Delly. That notwithstanding all this, Surrajah Dowlat, is raising a great Army, and extorting as much money as he can get from the Rajahs, and other people that are so unfortunate as to Lie under his power, not Sparing the Europeans.

The above is the Substance of Mr. Hastings his information upon which we beg leave to make the following Remarks : First, that the whole of it is not affirmed by that Gentleman, to be matter of Fact, and that in all probability great part of it may be no more than a Report rais'd by the Enemies of Souraggee Dowlat, next, that Sourragee Dowlat is possess'd of such immense Riches, and has so large an Army on foot, that it is very possible he will be able to extricate himself by one means or other from the dangers which threaten him at present, Lastly, shou'd he be cut off or expell'd from his Soubahship we shoud find immense Difficulties to Re-establish ourselves, In the Priviledges and Grants which the Royal Phirmaund sets forth and upon a proper and Secure Footing unless we can support our Demands with a Sufficient and respectable Military Force; These reasons we flatter ourselves will convince Your Honor &ca of the necessity us [*sic*] to the utmost of your power for recovering the Honble Companys Settlements, Rights, and priviledges in these Provinces notwithstanding the intelligence we have receiv'd from Cazimbuzar.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, NOVEMR. 1756.*—— [9mo]

We do not write this intelligence as a Certainty or with any Intention to check the Resolutions you may have come to for the assisting us, but if you shou'd be prevented from sending us so considerable a Force as we cou'd wish, and have requested, by advice of a Rupture between the Crowns of Great Britian and France, We are then to desire you will supply us with as large a number of Military and Artillery as you may Judge consistent with the Safety of the Hoñble Companys Possessions on your Coast, that we may be ready and in a Condition to make use of any turn in our favor, for which purpose and in hopes of your Honor &ca complying with our Request, we are determined to keep the River till we receive your Answer and are ascertained if we may expect a further Reinforcement, without which we apprehend it will be impossible to Re-establish ourselves in Bengall.

We beg leave to remark that cou'd we regain our Settlement during the Troubles in the Country, it wou'd be of the utmost Consequence in recovering our Priveledges, which we should find extremely difficult, as well as expensive if the Government shou'd be Settled before we repossess our Colony; This Consideration we flatter ourselves will have its due weight with your Honor &ca and we make no doubt will influence your Resolutions for sending us as large a Force to our Assistance as you can possibly Spare from the Calls on your Coast, & that, as early as you conveniently can.

Inclos'd we transmit you the Return of Military & Military Stores now in our Fleet, and are sorry to observe to your Honor &ca that Sickness greatly prevails among them, having lost Captain Godwin, Lieut. Samson, Lieut. Hardman, Ensign Vouga, and Ensign Walcott belonging to this Establishment, and private men now Sick and dead upwards of one hundred.

When Capt. Dogan left Bengal in the month of May, he carried away some Freight belonging to the Moors, which was returned in his Sloop and by us demanded of him, but he peremptorily Refus'd to deliver it upon our Receipt, which we beg leave to mention to your Honor &ca that you [may] take proper Notice of his Behaviour.

Inclos'd we transmit you a Packet for the Hoñble Company which we request you will forward by any Vessel that may be under dispatch for Europe from your Coast, and we likewise inclose a Packet for the President and Council of Bombay to be forwarded by Pattamar or Shipping as you may Judge most expeditious.

We are Hoñble Sir & Sirs
Your most Obedt. hble Servants

ROGER DRAKE JUNR.—WILLIAM WATTS—JAMES KILLPATRICK—RICHD. BECHER—PAUL RICHD. PEARKES—WILLM FRANKLAND—M. COLLET—JNO. Z. HOLWELL - WILLIAM MACKETT—PAUL AMYATT—THOS BODDAM.

FULTA
17th Septemr 1756.

Ordered that the Packet for the Hoñble the Court of Directors be forwarded by the Chesterfield.

And it being observed that two Dacca Consultations and the Copies of three French Letters written from Chandernagore to Dacca were receiv'd along with the Letter from Richd. Becher Esqr. &cn Council at Dacca and read in Consultation the 8th of Septemr but ommitted to be entered after the said Letter, it is Ordered that they be entered after this Committee to the end that our Hoñble Masters may be acquainted with every Information that has come to our Hands from all Quarters concerning the late unhappy Event; although we must at the same time declare, that from all the different advices we have rece'd from Fulta we see not the least Room to Suspect any such *Mystery of Iniquity* as is laid down in the last of the French Letters as the cause of the Loss of Calcutta.

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[9ma.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, NOVEMR 1756.*——

Letter to the Secret Committee to go by the Ship Chesterfield, Read, approved, and ordered to be copied fair.

The Seapoys having been review'd pursuant to the orders of last Committee, 150 were discharged, it is now Agreed to reduce all the Companies from 84 to 60 Seapoys in Order to lessen the Expence.

GEORGE PIGOT.

HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
WILLM PERCEVAL.
ROBT. PALK.

DACOA JUNE 27TH 1756.

AT A COUNCIL

Present

RICHD BECHER Esqr.
MESSRS. LUKE SCRAFTON THOS. HINDMAN.
SAML. WALLER.

The Consultation of the 21st Read, approv'd, & Sign'd This Day at noon our Vakeel came from the [Durbar] and acquainted us that the Nabob told him Seeraja Dowlat, had taken and plundered the Town of Calcutta and had also made himself master of Fort William, taken Mr. Holwell and some other Gentlemen Prisoners. That the Governor, Second, & some few more having taken to the Ships were endeavouring to make their escape down the River. That this Intelligence came from the French. Our Vakeel further acquainted us that Dussuraut Khan our Nabob demanded that we shou'd surrender ourselves immediately which if we did not comply with, he wou'd attack us, having everything in readiness. This account appears to us so improbable, that we apprehend it is put about in order to induce us to Surrender. Agreed therefore that Mr. Scrafton write to Monsr. Courtin desiring him to acquaint us if he has receiv'd any certain advice of the taking of Fort William by Seeraja Dowlat. In answer to which we receiv'd the melancholy confirmation of what our Vakeel had told us, Monsr. Courtin assuring us that he had receiv'd the most certain advice of Fort William's being taken by the Nabob ; That his letters were of the 19th, 20th & 21st from the Governor & Council of Chandernagore and several other Gentlemen, that he was using his Endeavors to the Durbar to save our Lives & honor, he advises us to come to as Speedy a Resolution, telling us that Bravery becomes Temerity and Imprudence when exerted mal á propos. Taking this Affair into our most Serious consideration, we are unanimously of Opinion, that there is no Reason to doubt the truth of this news, Agreed therefore, that we write to Monsr. Courtin returning him our most Sincere thanks for his kind Designs in our Favor, and to desire he will permit Monsr. Fleurin to come to us, and let us know what Terms can be procured for us in case we find we can't avoid Surrendering.

We now take into consideration the State of our Factory, Garrison Provisions &ca, & from thence are to form a Judgement whether we can render any material Service to our Honble Employers by attempting to defend ourselves.

As to the Situation of our factory, it stands in a large Town surrounded with numbers of houses from which they might annoy us with Cannon & Small arms. The Factory is little better than a common house, surrounded with a thin Brick wall one half of it not above nine feet high, our Garrison consists of a Lieutenant, 4 Serjeants, 3 Corporals, & 19 European Soldiers, besides 34 black Christians, and 60 Buxieries, As to the last we have little to expect from them, as they have almost all demanded Leave to quit us. Our Provisions may last three weeks or a month, but if we are attack'd our Amunition will soon be expended, and our men exhausted with Fatigue, as we have so few they must be almost always on Duty. Our Factory is at the Distance of near a quarter of a mile from the River. The Passage by water

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——*FORT ST GEORGE, NOVEMR 1756.*—— [9ver]

to Calcutta from 14 to 20 days. That from Muxadavad to Dacca about four, From which Place our Enemies might receive Reinforcements in 8 or 10 days. Notwithstanding the Disadvantage of our Situation, the Smallness of our Garrison &ca we were determin'd to defend ourselves to the utmost had we been attack'd while Fort William continued in the hands of the English, and to enable us to do it we had planted what Guns we had to the best advantage and with the Assistance of the Soldiers thrown up Breast works &ca and privately procured an additional Quantity of Powder, But since we are sure Fort William is taken, and that we can't expect the least assistance or Reinforcement from the Gentlemen who are escaped in their Ships. It does not appear to us that our attempting to defend ourselves can be of the least advantage to our Employers, and wou'd rather be an act of rashness than bravery. Agreed therefore that we endeavor to procure the best terms possible by means of the French, and Surrender our factory.

Observing numbers of armed men all around us, Ordered our Garrison to keep under arms, and a strict Watch to prevent a Surprize.

RICHD: BECHER.
LUKE SCRAFTON.
THOS. HYNDMAN.
SAML. WALLER.

DACCA.
28th. JUNE 1756.

AT A COUNCIL.

Present:

RICHD. BECHER ESQR. CHIEF
MESSRS. LUKE SCRAFTON THOS. HYNDMAN
SAML. WALLER. MONDAY.

The Consultation of the 27th Read, approved, & Signed.

This Morning Monsr. Fleurin the French Second came to our Factory to acquaint us that he had been with Dusseraut Khan our Nabob endeavouring to procure us the most favorable terms he could, but all that he was able to obtain, was, that the Factory shou'd be delivered up directly, the Soldiers lay down their arms, and be carried Prisoners to the Nabob, the Ladies go out in Palankeens to the French Factory, the Palankeens not to be searched on Monsr. Fleurin's giving his word that nothing shou'd be in them but the cloaths the Ladies had on, As to the Chief &ca Company's Servants the Nabob demanded that they shou'd be first be [*sic*] brought to him, and afterwards go to the French Factory Monsr. Courtin giving his Parole to the Nabob that we shall wait the orders of Seer Raja Dowlat in regard to our Future fate. Taking these Proposals into consideration, we think them very hard. But as Monsr. Fleurin assures us that very little Alteration can be expected Agreed that we beg Monsr. Fleurin to endeavor to save us the disgrace of going to the Durbar, & obtain Permission that we go directly to the French, also that the Soldiers may not be ill-used. This he Promises to endeavor to obtain and to return in the Afternoon.

The 28th June in the Afternoon Monsr. Fleurin returned and acquainted us he had obtained Permission for the Gentlemen to go to the French Factory without going to the Durbar, and that the Nabob had promis'd the Soldiers Shoud not be ill-us'd or put in Irons. We then gave our Paroles to the French Chief, gave up our Military Prisoners to the Nabobs People, and are now with sorrowful hearts leaving our Factory being Permitted to carry off nothing but the cloaths upon our Backs, having still this Satisfaction left, that we have to our utmost discharg'd our Duty to our Hoñble Employers.

RICHARD BECHER.
LUKE SCRAFTON.
THOS. HYNDMAN.
SAMUEL WALLER

At six in the Evening
the 28th June 1756.

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[9me.] —*FORT ST. GEORGE, NOVEMR. 1756.*—

MONSIEUR COURTIN Á DAKA Á CHANDERNAGORE 19me JUIN 1756.

Monsr.

N° : 1 Vous sçavez dèja a ce que m'a dit Monsr. Sinfray les sujets de Plainte qu'a le Nabob contre les Anglois, l'origine par consequent de la Guerre qu'il leur fait & tout ce qui s'est passé á Cazimbuzar.

La prise de leur fort en cet endroit bien loin de Satisfaire Suraja Dowlat n'a fait que lui elever le courage, la facilité avec laquelle il s'en est emparée lui a sans doute persuadé qu'avec une peu de peine il viendroit à bout de chasser egalement les Ang[lois] de Calcutta et qu'au moyen de cela il se rendoit maitre de tous les thrêsors que la Beagum de Navages Mahmet [Kan] & Rajabouloe y ont fait passer, rempli de cette idée & du nom qu'il s'alloit fair par cette exploit, il n'a voulu écoutter les réprésentations de personne, pas même celles de sa mère, qui a voulu le rétenir par le reproche qu'elle lui a fait de s'aller mesurer contre de Marchands, sur le champ les ordres ont été donnés pour faire prendre les devant à son Armée dont nous avons vû successivement defiler sur nos barrieres plusieurs corps de 4 de 6. & de 7 m hommes avec de L' artillerie ; lui même est parti le [ ] c'est à dire deux Jours après la rédition du fort Anglois, à la tête de vingt mille hommes, l'on fait monter de nombre de ses Elephans à 300--Son Artillerie est composée de 500 pieces de Cannon, du nombre des quelles sont 84 pieces de qu'il a tiré de la loge Angloise, avec 500 mans de Poudre, et deux mille boulets de fer, à l'exception de cette Artillerie Europenne, et de ses provisions le reste de cette appareille n'est pas fort dangereuse, du moins à en juger par quelques pieces de Cannon que nous avons vû au Jardin des Hollandois, ou un detachment de quelques cavaliers qui les conduisoit à reste deux Jours s'étant égarré de sa route, & n'ayant Jamais pû obténir passage au travers de L'aldée nous les avons été voir par Curiosité rien n'est plus pitoyable que la façon dont ils sont montés et approvisionné l'on pretend quils n'ont que des boulets de Calin.

Dépuis le départ de Seeraja Doulat de Muxadavad jusqu'àu 15me. l'ont avoit eu aucune nouvelles de lui & ce rétardement avoit donné lieu à bien de charades plusieurs personnes prétendant qu'il etoit encore renferm[é] dans son Serrail, d'autres que sentant la difficulté de son entreprise, il vouloit entrer en negociation, en effet un Vaqueel de Coja Wazeed ayant voulu faire des propositions à Monsr. Drake, on Soupçonna que le Nabob pour ne pas se compromettre, avoit fair agir ce Marchand, mais ces bruits furent bientôt dissipées par l'arrivée de ce Seigneur qui couchat le 15e dans un Jardin vis à vis de Chinchurat.

Les Vacqueels des deux Nations lui presentés le Salame dans cet endroit, le nôtre fut bien réçu & même il y eut deux Betels pour Monsr. Renault, mais pour les Hollandois il ne se contenta pas de les refuser, il leur fit connoitre fort clairement le mépris qu'il avoit pour eux, et le dessein ou il etoit de leur rendre quelque visite à son retour de Calcutta, le lendemain on le vit passer dans cette grande Plaine qui est en face de la loge de l'autre côté de la Rivierre ; ses Chameaux, ses Elephans, son train &ca nous occuperent toute la Matinée.

Avant son départ deMuxadavad craignant peut etre que les trois nations ne soutensent mutuellement, ou bien, agissant de bonne foie, il fit appeller au Durbar, les Vacqueels François et Hollandois, leur declara la resolution ou il etoit de chasser les Anglois de Bengal, et en même tems vouloit sçavoir quel Secours il pourroit attendre de leurs maitres dans son Expédition.

Les Hollandois qui avoient apparament sa leçon toute faite se hâta de repondre, que sa Compagnie n'etoit que Marchand, point de toute faitte pour la guerre, qu'a peine y avoit il a Chinchurat 10 pieces de Cannon et 50 Soldats tant blancs que noirs, mais ajutât tout de suite et assurement pour nous rendre un mauvais Service, addressez vous aux François, il sont bien fort à Chandernagore, d'ailleurs ces sont des Gens qui ne peuvent rester en répos, ils ne demanderont pas mieux que de se battre contre les Anglois, sur tout ils sont toûjours en guerre avec eux tantôt battus, tantôt battans, il faut qu'ils ayent toûjours les Armes á la main. Cette Reponse bien loin de produire l'éffet qu'en attendoit le Vacqueel, a inspiré

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———*FORT ST. GEORGE, NOVEMR. 1756.*——— [9TH.]

a Seeraja Dowlat & à son Durbar le plus grand mépris pour les Hollandois, ce qu'ils ont temoigné par beaucoup de marques d'indignation, et en même tems leur a donné une idée avantageuse de nôtre Nation, dont ils connoissent la valeur, le Nabob etoit si content qu'il a fait mille amitiés à nôtre Vacqueel, l'a renvoyé avec deux betels pour Monsr. Law, et deux pour lui même, et a declaré publiquement qu'il vouloit nous donner Calcutta en propre qu'il alloit nous en faire délivrer le Paravana si nous voulions, à toutes ces offres il a ajouté que son dessein etoit de nous éléver dans la Bengale au même degré que nous étions à la Côte après avoir ainsi vendu de peau de l'ours avant de l'avoir tué &ca.

Il etoit si persuadé que nous allions accepter ces Offres que quelques Jours après il démanda a nôtre Vacqueel si Monsr. Renault avoit deja envoye ses Vaisseaux pour cercler Calcutta par eau, pendant que ses troupes l'entourreroient par terre, vous devez sçavoir Monsr. qu'elle a été la resolution du conseil à cet égard et la réponse qu'on lui a fait faire Sçavoir, qu'on ne pouvoit rien entreprendre contre les Anglois sans y etre authorisé D'Europe, ou du moins de Pondichery, vu que la guerre n'etoit point declaré entre cette Nation et la nôtre &ca.

Ils avoient établis deux Batteries au dessus et au dessous de Calcutta, ils y etoit retranchée ainsi que derriere une grande Fossée qu'ils avoient tiré autour de leur Aldée, resolu de se defendre les approches de leur Colonie autant qu'ils pouvoient, mais larrivée du Nabob a fait changer de face à toutes leurs dispositions, à son approche, ils ont non seulement abandonné cette enceinte, mais meme la Defence de leur Colonie Europienne, ils se sont retirées dans leur loge, où ils sont entassées la Bravade qu'ils avoient faitte dans les commencemens d' empêcher que qui que ce soit ne Sortit de leur Aldée pour faire voir leur confiance n'a Servi qu'a augmenter le Tumulte &ca.

Les Anglois sont donc actuellement resserrés dans leur fort autour du quel ils ont élévé une espece de Glacis qui les couvre entierrement, pour n'être point étourdis par les cris des Femmes ils les ont fait transporté a bord de leur vaisseaux, qu'ils sont et prêts à faire voile au nombre de dix ou douze y compris les Brigantines et bats, ils ont aussi dit—On chargée dessus les thrésors qui leur sont confié que l'on fait monter à deux croies.

Signé LE CONTE.

From the same

À MONSr. COURTIN À DAKA À CHANDERNAGORE LE 21me JUIN

2. Le Pattamar ayant retardé deux Jours me donne le tems et l'occasion de vous faire part de la prise de Calcutta, cet evenement auquel nous nous attendions pas en verités, ne malheureusement que trop certain en voici les particularités que nous avons appris.

Le 19me. au soir nous sçumes ici par les blessés qui passerent qu'il y avoit eu un Sorti de faitte par les Anglois dans laquelle ils avoient tué prés de 1,500 hommes au Maures, mais qu'ils s'étoient retirés avec precipitation, et avoient été obligé d'enclouer les Canons de Compagne, qu'ils avoient emmenés malgré cette avantage, l'esprit de vertige et de trouble est tellement emparrée d'eux qu'ils n'ont plus ecoutés au Commendement, Monsr. Drake s'etant retiré de la veille, Monsr. Holwell qui s'est trouvé Commandant n'a pas fait la moindre Résistance, les Maures montés sur les maisons qui dominent le Fort y ont établis tranquillement leur Batteries, et y ont fusilé à leur aise les Anglois que n'ont jamais osés reposter on pretend qu'ils n'ont pas tiré dix coup de cannon, le peu d'ordre qui regnoit faisoit que les Soldats maitres de Magazines étoient toûjours yvres et incapabables de Service, enfin hier le feu ayant pris aux Magazins, les Soldats au lieu de chercher à l'etendre ont pris, l'epouvante et se sont sauvés abord des Vaisseaux pele mele, Monsr. Holwell voyant cette fuite a écrit sur le champ au Nabab pour entrer en composition a haussé Pavillon Maure a ce Signal les Maures qui entourroient le Fort croyant que leur Comrades y etoient entrés se sont Jettés comme des perdus sur les murailles, et aux Portes qu'ils ont enfoncés &ca. Cet évenement qui s'est passé hier á trois heurs après midi, et que

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[9ma.] ——*FORT ST· GEORGE, NOVEMR 1756.*——

nous n'avons appris qu'à onze heures le Soir a été accompagné de Circonstances le plus tristes pour les Anglois, leur plus grand vaisseau chargé d'un monde étonnant a échoué sur un banc à côte deCalcutta, et y est encore, le Nabob a fait chargé de paille une quantité deBatteaux avec lesquelles il conte mettre le feu au vaisseau si il ne se rend pas &ca·

LeConte.

Extrait D'une Lettre écritte de Chandernagor en datte du 3e Juillet 1756 concernant les Suittes de la Prise de Calcutta.

No: 3. Nous avons à remplir icy á l'egard de plusieurs Anglois, entre autres, Messrs· Watts & Collet les mêmes dévoirs que ceux vous vous êtes acquitté à Daka. Ces deux derniers arriverent icy le 28 au soir en Palanquin, mais du reste en assez mauvais équipage, quoique peu de Jours après sa Détention, le Nabab eut donné ordre de le traitter un peu mieux. Il a toûjours été assujeti à une quantités d'ignomignie on lui a laissé a peine une Partie de son linge, et de ses hardes ; Lorsqu'il passa auprès de Chinchurat en Suivans le Nabab à son expédition de Calcutta, il fit demander quelques Secours á Monsr· Besdom, qui outre quelques raffraichissements lui envoya 1,000 Rups· pour pouvoir retirer cette envoy des mains des Sangsües qui l'egardoient, il fut obligé d'entrer en Accomodement et de Sacriffier plus de 6,00 Rs. de 1,000. pour sauver le reste ; à la fin il a été relachè, le Nabab même l'a recommendé à Monsr· Renault, avec injonction de le faire passer á la Coste ; on dis même que pour reparer le mal qu'il lui a fait, il a promis d'écrire en sa faveur au conseil de Madras, en lui marquant l'insolente conduite des Anglois et de Monsr· Drake, ce qui l'avoit obligé à en venir avec eux aux derniers extrémités, et a les chasser de Bengal. Je doutte fort que cette Protection serve beaucoup á Monsr· Watts, quoique dans le fond, il soit bien moins coupable que Monsr· Drake, On ne peut tout au plus reprocher au prémier que trop de Foiblesse, et d'imprudence, au lieu que ce dernier est coupable en outre de Lacheté de Friponerie, et de la plus insigne Trahison que lon puisse commettre, ayant preteré ainsi que le Commandant des troupes, et la plus grande partie du Conseil leur Sureté et cette de leurs biens au Salut d'une quantité de Femmes, d'honêtes gens, et d'une foule de chrétiens : L'on Sçait á present Le détail de tout ce qui s'est passé dans ce triste événement, et les Resorts secrets de toutte cette Affaire, que l'on ne peut regarder que comme une Mistere d'iniquité. Il n'est plus douteux à la Façon dont se conduit Monsr· Drake que son plan ne fut formé avec le Commandant des Troupes et quelques Conseillers, et qu'ils n'eussent jugés les uns et les autres ces Troubles, un coup de Partie, pour s'approprier une partie des richesses immenses qui leur etoient confiés ; C'est dans cette vüe que Monsr· Drake au lieu d'entrer en accomodement avec le Nabab, n'avoit chercher qu'a le pousser à bout par les R'eponses le plus Insolentes ; il auroit été bien faché sans doutte que les choses n'en fussent pas venues la, mais il est bien plus Surprenant encore qu'ayant pour objêt la perte de sa Colonie, et sa retraitte abord des Vaisseaux, il n'ait pas mieux songé á S'assurer ce derniere Article, et qu'il n'ait mis abord de ces Batimens, n'y eau, n'y vivres, n'y matelots, n'y même de L'est, n'ayant uniquement songé quà leurs Richesses, comme si en mer, l'argent Supleoit au reste ; on prétend en êffet qu'ils manquent de tous, et que les Conseillers vivrent au Cabestan.

Avans que l'on sçu tout ce qui s'etoit passé dans le Fort, on ne comprendit pas comment les Maures S'en étoient rendus maitres, et par quel enchantement la tête avoit tournée aux Anglois à ce point la. Les mesures de Monsr. Drake ètoient si bien prises qu'il laissa dans la loge les 3 Conseillers, qui lui étoient le plus opposés, Sçavoir Messrs· Holwell, Eyre et Baillie ; il avoit choisi pour faire ce beau coup le moment d'une Sortie qu'il avoit ordonnée, dans le tems qu'il s'embarquoit une Foule de Soldats et de Peuple se jetta pêle mêle a l'eau et dans les Batteaux pour Joindre les Vaisseaux, ce à quoi fort peu reussirent, plusieurs ayant coulés avant d'arriver : Ceux qui ont été Temoin, de cet Tumulte, comptoient avoir vu se noyer plus de deux cent Personnes.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, NOVEMR. 1756.*—— [9mo]

Après cette retraitte qui avoit occasionné une grande Sedition, et pendant la quelle on tira quelques Coups de Fusil sur Monsr. Drake, la Consternation se mit dans ceux qui étoient restés, les Soldats du Détachment qui révenoit de son Expédition, ne trouvant plus ni Gouverneur ni Commandant se mutinerent, enfoncerent les Godons de vin et s'en remplirent. Le peu qui etoient capable de faire Resistance et de se laisser aller ainsi au Déséspoir, fit bonne contenance jusqu'au Jeudi ce devoit être Dimanche que voyant que le desordre continuoit, ils Jugerent à própos de se rendre. Le moment ou les Maures s'emparent du Fort fut semblable à celui de la retraitte, bien des Personnes se noyerent en cherchant Azile abord des Vaisseaux. Les 2 premiers jours se passerent avec la licence, et avec tous les Désordres d'une Place prise d'assaut à lexception du massacre auquel les Maures ne sont pas habitués envers ceux qui sont desarmés. Environ 1,60 Européens qui furent pris dans le Fort, furent renfermés dans une chambre si Pettite qúils n'y pourroient ténir que debout et les bras hauts : des la 1ere nuit 132 y moururent etouffés par la chaleur, Monsr. Eyre Conseiller, que vous avez peut-être connu eut le même Sort le lendemain. Un Anglois qui s'est Sauvé de cet enfer rapporte un trait de Monsr. Eyre qui fait voir ce qu'ils avoient à souffrir, il dit que comme il etoit extrêment gras & réplet, il n'avoit pas imaginé d' autre Soulagement, que de tirer sa Pagne qui ainsi qu'aux autres étoit son unique Vêtement, de la tirer dis-je tout imbibée de Sueur, de la tordre, et d'en exprimer dans sa Bouche ce qui en Sortoit pour se désalterer ; il n'est pas suprénant qu'il n'y ait pas tenu ; Monsr. Baillie l'autre Conseiller a été tué, mais Monsr. Holwell est sans doutte le plus a plaindre, comme c'etoit lui qui exercoit la Gémidarerie à Calcutta, les Maures lui en vouloient de loin en Conséquence on lui donne la Chabouque presque tous les Jours, et l'on s'attend à apprendre á tous moments qu'il auroit Succombé sous ce Jourement. Lorsque le Nabab fit son entré dans le Fort de Calcutta, il ne put revenir de sa Surprise en voyant un amas si prodigieux de canons, de Boulets, & autre munition, le premier article en êffet monte à plus de 500 tant montés, que sur leurs affuts, il fut frappé de la Beauté du gouvernement et le trouva digne d'être habilé [*sic*] par des Princes et non par des Marchands. En voyant le feu en uné quantités d'endroits, et considerant le grande nombre de belles maisons, il ne peut s'empêcher de dire en parlant des Anglois, qu'il falloit que ces gens la, fussent bien fous pour l'avoir obligé de les forcer à abandonner une si grande ville. Sur le champ il donnoit ordre de détruire le Gouvernement en haine de Monsr. Drake, à qui il s'imagine qu'il appertenoit en propre, mais le reste fut conservé et le feu éteint, il fut même demeurer dans la belle maison de Monsr. Wedderburn, et il fut publier un ordre après quelque tems, à tous les chretiens et Gentils de returner habiter leur maisons dans 3 Jours sous peine de le perdre : quelques uns ont obei, et il ne leur a fait aucune mal, la plus grande Partie n'a pas osés, et est dans nôtre Aldée. Ils ont eu d'autant plus de raison de ne se point [prêter à cet] invitation que le Nabab depuis quelques Jours à changé D'avis on ne sçais sous quel Prétêxte et qu'il a envoyé 2,000 Pioniers pour detruire et razer toutte la Colonie, ne voulant pas dit-il qu'il y reste Pierre sur Pierre. Le Faussedar passa même hier au Soir pour aller hater l'ouvrage par sa Presence, on disoit icy d'abord, que c'étoit en Révanche des désordres que commetoient les Anglois au bas de la Riviere où ils bruloient et ravagoient touttes les Aldées, mais on a sçu depuis que cette nouvelle étoit fausse, ainsi que celle de l'arrivée de 2 de leurs Vaisseaux de guerre que l'on dit tous le Jours être arrivés et qui desparoissent le Lendemain.

Par ma derniere lettre j'avois l'honneur de vous marquer, je crois, que les Anglois etoient encore avec leur Vaisseaux un peu au dessous de Calcutta qu'après avoir abandonné 5 Vaisseaux sous leur Fort, et perdu un sur un Banc, ils étoient assez embarassés pour Passer Macouatana (Tanner's Fort) ou les Maures avoient dressé des Batteries, ils ont dépuis franchi ce pas assez aisement, mais à celui de Bougi Bougi, où on les attendoit avec beaucoup de Cayetoques, ils ont perdu deux de leur vaisseaux qui ont echoués et se sont entreouverts tout deSuitte, hereusement les Maures ont sauvé tout le monde dont le nombre etoient considerable Surtout en Femmes parmy lesquelles s'est trouvée la Niece de Monsr. Finnelly ; on n'a fait de mal au personne mais le Gemidar de l'endroit n'a voulu les relacher qu'à condition

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[9th] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, NOVEMR. 1756.*——

qu'on lui donneroit 25Rs. par tête, [On a Sçu] depuis que les Anglois les avoient rachetées et qu'elle avoient rejoient les vaisseaux les maures ont trouvé sur ces vaisseaux une grande quantité d'argenterie surtout cel de la Compagnie et 20 Caisses d'argent. Nôtre vaisseau Le Silhouet ne sachant rien de la guerre des Anglois a été fort surpris en passant devans Macouatana de se voir tirer une grande quantités de coups de Cayetoques, la force de le marée l'empêchant de mouiller la, il a jetté L'Ancre au dessus de cette Fortresse; les Anglois qui n'étoient pas encore passés en ce tems la sont venus abord, du moins quelque uns de la Connoissance de Monsr. Chambon, ils lui ont appris de quoy il etoit Question, et n'ont put empêcher de convenir qu'ils s'etoient couverts de honte par la Lacheté avec laquelle ils S'etoient enfuis, mais en meme Tems pour engager le Capitaine à réposter sur les Maures en cas que l'on tirés de nouveau sur lui, ils lui ont declaré que nous étions aussi fourrés dans cette affaire, et que le Nabab vouloit aussi nous chasser de Chandernagore, il n'est pas difficile de decouvrir l'intention d'un rapport aussi infidel, Monsr. Chambon avant de se determiner, a expedié à Monsr. Renault qui lui a envoyé ordre de prendre garde à ne pas donner le moindre ombrage aux Maures, en éffet il a été obligé d'envoyer Pendant la nuit quelques raffraichissemens que les Anglois lui avoit demandés. Après la ruine de Calcutta nous avons eu ainsi que les Hollandois nôtre tour pour la Peur. Non pas à la verité Autant que les Anglois mais peu s'en faut; L'Armée du Nabob a presque toute defilée au travers de notre Aldée insultant tout le monde dans les Ruës, y commettant mille violences, enlévant les Domestiques et Baeras pour porter leur Butin, Accablant de coups des gens du Port pour avoir des Batteaux, enfin que vous dirai-je les choses ont été vingt fois sur le point d'être portés à l'extremité; pour nous achêver le Nabab s'étant rendu á bugly [*sic*] le 25e. a mis à Contribution les deux Nations, les Hollandois lui ont payé 4 Lacs et demi, et nous malgré le Fremissement général de tout le monde, tant employées et Particuliers que Soldats et Matelots marque nôtre nombre de 300 blancs, et l'envie de venger l'honneur du nom Europeene nous nous Sommes Soumis à Payer dit-on 3 Lacs; il faut croire que l'interêst de Petits Comptoirs n'a peu contribué à determiner Messrs. du Conseil dont les Lumieres, plus étendues que celles de nous autres jeuns gens sont plus apportés de Juger des Avantages et des desavantages de nôtre resistance; a l'égard de la Loge je ne crois pas qu'on ait eu la moindre crainte, et qu'il etoit aisé de voir par l'ardeur que tout le monde témoignoit combien elle étoit en Sureté, mais il n'en est pas moins vrai qu'outre les Petits Comptoirs il eut été bien difficile de defendre la Colonie, dont la destruction eutruinée tous le Marchands &^c Les Capitaines de ces vaisseaux qui se sont échoués á Bougi Bougi arrivoient hier icÿ, ils ont étés Suivis par une quantite d'autres de tous Etats que le Nabab permet que nous rétirions, il a même fait dire qu'il nous enverroit tous ceux dont il s'empararoit, ainsi nous nous attendons à voir bientôt ceux de Daka.

Sent the following Letter to Captain Caillaud pursuant to the foregoing Resolution.

No. 43. To Captain John Caillaud.

Sir

We receiv'd this morning your Letter of the 2^d Instant. It is with great Pain we observe Mahofaz Cawn's Ripeness for Rebellion and we approve of your going to Nattom upon so emergent an occasion. The terms of an Accommodation require so much caution and Good Management and the whole Affair is indeed in so intricate a Position that we think it necessary before we can Settle any thing to have the clearest and most explicit Information of the Circumstances of every Party concerned, and of the State of the Countries in question, which Information we can no way so well arrive at, as by a personal Interview with You.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, NOVEMR 1756.*—— [9TH]

We desire therefore that you will set out with the utmost Expedition for Madras first writing to Usoff Cawn to draw upon Moodille for what money he may have an Absolute & present Occasion for; and to Moodille to answer such Drafts as Usoff Cawn may make, promising that we will settle the Account with him hereafter.

Write also to Mahofoz Cawn that you are going to Madras upon his Business for which Reason you recommend to him to wait quietly for your Return taking care that none of his People or others in his Name commit any Disturbance in the Country.

The Charge of the Garrison during your Absence is to be left with Captain Smith.

We are Sir

Your most Obedt Servants

GEORGE PIGOT &CA COMMITTEE.

Fort St. George
9th November 1756.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

GEORGE PIGOT ESQR. GOVERNOR PRESIDENT
STRINGER LAWRENCE HENRY POWNEY
ROBERT ORME WILLIAM PERCEVAL
ROBERT PALK.

SATURDAY THE 13TH NOVEMR.

The President lays before the Committee the following Letter which he receiv'd last night from the Select Committee at Bombay.

TO THE HOÑBLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQR.
PRESIDENT & GOVERNOR, OR TO THE PRESIDENT AND GOVERNOR FOR THE TIME BEING AT FORT ST GEORGE

Honble Sir

This is to dispatch by an Express Boat to the Chief of Tillichery purposely to give Cover to his Majesty's Declaration of War against the French King, and Copy of the Secret Committee's Letter to the President relative thereto, receiv'd the 5th Instant, via Bussorah.

We now send Copies of the above to the Chiefs of Tillechery and Anjengo, for Admiral Watson to be deliver'd on his Appearance of either of those Settlements, but if contrary to our Expectations he shou'd continue on your Side, we desire your Honr. will inform him of the above Advices, with all possible Expedition.

Please also to forward the accompanying Packet for the President at Fort William.

We are Sir

Your most Obedient Servants

RICHd. BOURCHIER, CHAS. CROMMELIN,
JAMES FOULIS, SAMY. HOUGH.

Bombay Castle
7th October 1756.

The President likewise lays before the board the copy of a Letter from the Secret Comittee of the East India Company directed to the President of Bombay dated 18th May last advising of the Declaration of War and containing their Directions in consequence.

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[13TH] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, NOVEMB. 1756.*——

Ordered that Letters be immediately dispatch'd to Fort St. David, Devecotah, Trichenopoly, Arcot, Changleput, Vizagapatam, Injeram, & Bandermalanka, to inform them of the War with France that they may be constantly on their Guard, and as the three last Settlements will be continually Subject to be overun by the large Force the French have to the Northward it is Agreed to direct the Gentlemen there to provide in the best manner possible for the Security of the Company's Effects in case of Emergency.

This News making it necessary for Captain Caillaud to remain in his Garrison of Trichenopoly it is Agreed to countermand our Orders of the 9th Instant for his coming to Madras, and to direct him to use his utmost Endeavors to put an End to the Disturbance at Madura by promising Mahofoz Cawn that a proper Provision shall be made for his Support, and as we have wrote to the Nabob on the Subject if he will put the Fort of Madura in Possession of the Company's Seapoys, and come away to Trichenopoly he may expect to hear further from us by the Time of his Arrival there.

Ordered that Usoff Cawn leave as many Seapoys in Madura as Capt. Caillaud shall Judge necessary for it's Defence, and such a Number with Tetarapah Moodille as he shall require, and come away with the rest to Trichenopoly as Soon as Mahofoz Cawn shall quit Madura.

The Fortifications having been so far advanc'd upon the Plan Resolved on in our Consultation of the 5th July last that the West Side of the Town is esteem'd to be thereby pretty well Secured ; To the Southward there being only a narrow Slip of Land between the River and the Sea, quite open and expos'd to the cannon of three Bastions, it wou'd be very difficult for an Enemy to carry on approaches on that Side ; To the Northward the Houses of the Black Town being within less than 4 hundred Yards of our Walls which are also weak on that Side and defended with but few Cannon and having no Covert way for the defence of the Glacis, it is there that according to the General Judgment the Town is most in danger from the Attack of an Enemy.

Ordered therefore that the Engineer do forthwith lay before the Committee a Plan of such Works as he thinks will best and most Speedily Secure the Northward of the Town.

Order'd also that proper Plans be prepar'd to contain a further Quantity of Water the large Tank under the new Bastion which is already fill'd being found insufficient.

And that Notice be given to the Several Families to lay up a Sufficient Quantity for themselves in their own Houses that there may be no Draft from the Publick Stores on their Account.

The President is desir'd to acquaint the Nabob of the War and to make him an Offer of the best Accommodations procurable in Madras if he and his Family chuse to reside here for their Greater Security. To acquaint also the King of Tanjour.

As Governor Bourchier writes the President that he had receiv'd a Packet from Europe for Admiral Watson which he purpos'd to forward by Sea to Bengal, It is probrable [*sic*] that will reach him before any Advices that can now be sent from hence and he will doubtless in concert with the Gentlm. of the Committee at Bengal and Colonel Clive make the best use of the large Force that will be collected there, to Secure the Company's Settlements and distress the Enemy.

However as it appears to the Committee that the taking of Chandernagore from the French wou'd be of particular Service to the Company's Affairs at this time by envolving the French Interests in Bengal in as great a Calamity as our own have lately Suffer'd, it is Agreed to dispatch a Pattamar with Letters to Mr. Watson, the Select Committee at Bengal, and Colonel Clive recommending that Enterprize if they think there is a Prospect of Success without much Loss.

And as Mr. Bourchier in his Letter to the President mentions that he purpos'd to dispatch the Company's Ship Royal Duke with Troops for Bengal, which Ship we

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, NOVEMR 1756.*—— [13th]

learn by private Advices was to be accompanied with the Orixa and the Revenge and to carry in all five hundred men we hope that these added to the Troops which were on board the Ships at Fulta will be Sufficient to be kept for the Defence of Calcutta and that Colonel Clive will be able to bring back with him near as many as he carried away. It is Agreed however to leave it to him to determine according to the Situation of Affairs there what Force to leave, and only to direct him to return hither with such Troops as it Shall be resolved to bring with him, as early in the next Year as possible.

The Committee very much hope that Admiral Watson, either by his Overland Packet or by the Ship of War which the Secret Committee in their Letter to the President at Bombay advise was to be dispatch'd with this News, will be directed to remain some time longer in India; At Present it is Resolv'd to repeat our Request that he will call here in his way from Bengal, and give a Passage on his Majesty's Ships to Colonel Clive and the Troops he is to bring back with him.

As we have a very large Tract of Country to defend, it is thought necessary to keep up the number of Seapoys and Resolved not to make the Reduction agreed on last Committee.

GEORGE PIGOT.

HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.
ROBT. PALK.

Sent the following Letters to Vice Admiral Watson the Select Committee at Bengal and Robert Clive Esqr. pursuant to the foregoing Resolution.

To CHARLES WATSON ESQR.
VICE ADMIRAL OF THE BLUE AND COMMANDER IN CHIEF
OF HIS MAJESTY'S SQUADRON IN INDIA.

Sir

We receiv'd late last night by the way of Bombay his Majesty's Declaration of War against France which was inclos'd to Mr. Bourchier in a Letter from the Secret Committee of the East India Company and was proclaim'd on the 17th May in England. Dispatches were receiv'd at the same time for you which Mr. Bourchier is forwarding to you by Sea with some Land Forces, the Committee in their Letter of the 18th May advise that a small Ship of War was to sail a few days after for the Malabar Coast with other Dispatches and Orders to touch at Anjengo.

Upon this Alteration of Affairs what the Company recommend to us is to proceed on any Plan that may have been concerted against the French and to take measures for the Security and Protection of their own Settlements. If you Judge the taking of Chandernagore practible [*sic*] without much Loss it wou'd certainly be a Step of great Utility to the Companys Affairs and take off in great measure the bad Effects of the Loss of Calcutta by putting the French in a Situation equally Disadvantageous.

We hope that this Enterprise shoud you think it proper to be proceeded on, may be effected as well as the Operations for the Re-establishment of the Company's own Settlements so Speedily that Colonel Clive with the Troops he carried with him may return to this Coast early in the next Year; As we judge that the Troops sent from Bombay added to what were before in Bengal will be Sufficient to be left for the Protection of Calcutta.

We are inclin'd to hope that the Packet forwarded to You from Bombay or those intended you by the Ship of War will bring you Directions to remain some time longer in India, as we have no news of another Squadron ordered this way. But in all cases we must earnestly request of you to call here and to give Colonel Clive and the Troops which may be return'd from Bengal a Passage on his Majesty's Ships.

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[18ᵗʰ.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, NOVEMR 1756.*——

A Vessel is arriv'd at Pondichery from the Islands, & we have again Reports of a Force collected there which is to appear on this Coast in January but no mention is made in any of the advices from Europe of a French Fleet having Sail'd for India. Inclos'd is Copy of the Paper of Intelligence Sent us by Mr. Bourchier and a Printed Copy of the Declaration of War.

We are with great Respect & Esteem

Sir

Your most Obedt. hble Servants

Fort St. George
18th Novemr 1756.

GEORGE PIGOT &ca. COMMITTEE.

To THE HONBLE ROGER DRAKE ESQR.
&ca. GENTLEMEN OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE
AT BENGAL.

Gentlemen,

Last night we receiv'd news from Bombay that War was declar'd against France on the 17th May. We receiv'd at the same time the Copy of a Letter from the Secret Committee of the East India Company to the President at Bombay dated the 18th May wrote in Cypher, and observing also there was a Packet for your President we imagin'd it might contain another Copy of the same Letter in Cypher and therefore we thought proper to open it Supposing that your Cypher was Lost.

It proved as we expected, we have taken out that Letter in Cypher the Substance of which is only that the War being declared any Projects that may have been form'd against the French are to be carried into Execution and proper Measures taken for the Defense [*sic*] and Protection of their own Settlements.

Mr. Bourchier writes the President that he is Sending the Royal Duke with Troops to your Assistance, and we learn by private Advices that the Revenge and Orixa were also to be dispatch'd to you and that the Number of men intended to be embark'd was about five hundred.

We hope that this Reinforcement added to the men you had before will be Sufficient for the Protection of Calcutta, and therefore we have directed Colonel Clive to return here early in the Year with the Troops he carried with him or as many as can possibly be Spared.

We have desired Mr. Watson if he thinks it practicable to dispossess the French of Chandernagore not doubting but it will be of infinite Service in your Affairs, Shou'd you be of this Opinion we desire you will enforce our Recommendation.

We are Gentlemen

Your most Obedt. Servants

Fort St. George
13th. Novemr 1756.

GEORGE PIGOT &c. COMMITTEE.

To ROBERT CLIVE ESQR.

Sir

We receiv'd late last night the news of War with France which was declar'd the 17th of May, and there is a Letter from the Secret Committee dated the next day directing that any Plan of Operation which may have been form'd against the French be immediately proceeded on and all proper Measures taken for the Protection and Security of their own Settlements.

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[13TH]

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, NOVEMR 1756.*——

Mr. Bourchier writes the President under date the 15th October that he is sending the Royal Duke with Troops to Bengal and by some Private Advices we learn that the Revenge & the Orixa were to accompany her and that the number of Troops to be embark'd on them was about five hundred.

If the Reduction of Chandernagore can be added to the other Intentions of your Expedition it will be a very acceptable Piece of Service and we have recommended it to Mr. Watson in the same manner. But as it will be absolutely necessary that our Troops or the greatest Part of them be returned to us very early in the ensuing Year, we wou'd not have you proceed on any distant Operations against the Nabob of Bengal nor indeed as the War is declared do we think it advisable to attempt the Re-establishment of any other Factories than Calcutta unless the Nabob Shou'd be induced to offer the Restitution of the rest of the Company's Settlements together with such Reparation for their Losses as may be accepted.

We are persuaded you will do as much as can be done in so short a time, but whatever may be your Success we think it necessary to direct that you return hither as early as possible with such Troops as can be Spar'd and which we hope, as so large a Reinforcement is sent from Bombay will be near as many as you carried with You.

We are Sir
Your most Obedt. Servants
GEORGE PIGOT &CA. COMMITTEE.

Fort St. George.
13th November 1756.

Dispatch'd also short Letters with Notice of the War, to Alexander Wynch Esqr. at Fort St David, Mr. James Bourchier Chief at Devecota, Mr. John Lewin Smith Provisional Chief at Vizagapatam, Ms. Foss Wescott Resident at Injeram, Mr. John Andrews Resident at Bandermalanka, Captain Polier Commanding at Changleput, Captain Preston Commanding at Arcot, and the following Letter to Captain John Caillaud.

To CAPTAIN CAILLAUD. (No. 4).

Sir

Since the Dispatch of our Letter to you of the 9th we have receiv'd the Declaration of war against France. It is therefore necessary that you keep to your Garrison and be well on your Guard Sending us Intelligence of the Motions of any French Troops your way.

Concerning the Madura Affair you must use your utmost Endeavors to bring it to a Conclusion, that we may not be under a necessity of keeping so large a Force there. We have wrote to the Nabob to persuade him to give Mahofoz Cawn what he demands and you may assure him that I will take care a proper Provision is made for him, and that for the present his best way is to come to you at Trichenopoly. As soon as Mahofoz Cawn leaves Madura you are to appoint such a number of Seapoys as you think necessary to Garrison Madura, and as many to be left with Moodillee as he Shall require ; to be entirely under his own Orders ; and order Usoff Cawn to come away with the rest to Trichenopoly, where you shall receive our further Orders.

Advise Usoff Cawn not to suffer Moodille to be in any Respect distress'd, and to receive from him only what money he can raise, It cannot be expected that he is to be at the expense of the whole Force now in those Countries.

We are Sir
Your most Obedt. Servants
GEORGE PIGOT &CA. COMMITTEE.

Fort St. GEORGE.
13th Novemr 1756.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, NOVEMR 1756.*——

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

THURSDAY THE 18TH. GEORGE PIGOT ESQR. GOVERNOR PRESIDENT
STRINGER LAWRENCE HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME WILLIAM PERCEVAL
ROBERT PALK
COLONEL ADLERCRON *being likewise Present.*

The President lays before the Committee two Plans of Works propos'd by the Engineer for the Defense of the North end of the Town, one of them being an Outwork to be built upon the Glacis to cover the present Fortifications, the other being a Plan for thickening and enlarging the Present Curtain and Bastions so as to bear a large additional Number of Cannon, and for making a Covert way to the Glacis. Either of these wou'd answer the desired end; but as the last will take up by far the least time and the Engineer Judges that with the Number of four thousand Cooleys it may be compleated in six Weeks; it is Ordered to be immediately set about and the President is desired to write again to the Nabob to order Cooleys to be sent in from the Arcot Districts and to the several Renters and Pollygars in the Neighbourhood to furnish as many as possible.

And as it is absolutely necessary that some Person instructed in the Business Shou'd be constantly on the Works where it is impossible for Mr. Brohier continually to be himself, it is Agreed that Mr. Charles Noble who was Colonel Scot's Secretary, Mr. MacDonald, Voluntier of the King's Train, and Mr. Leigh, a Company's Servant brought up in the Engineering way, who have offer'd their Service to act as Sub-Engineers, be employed in that Quality for the Purpose Beforementioned and it is likewise Agreed that Mr. Brohier have Liberty to engage such further Assistance of Sub-Engineers Overseers &ca as he shall see necessary.

Colonel Adlercron reads to the Committee the Letter he receiv'd by the way of Bombay from Mr. Fox, advising him of the War and directing him to take such measures in consequence as Shall be most conducive to his Majesty's Service. And Colonel Adlercron informs the Committee that it is his Intention to publish the Declaration of War at the Head of his Majesty's Troops according to the usual Custom of the King's Garrisons.

It being uncertain whether the News of the War has been receiv'd at Pondichery or not the Committee request of Colonel Adlercron to defer the Publication for a few Days untill we know that our Out Garrisons have receiv'd, the Notice sent them and are in Readiness for their own Defence as well as for the Protection of the Several Dependent Countries.

GEORGE PIGOT.

HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.
ROBT. PALK.

Receiv'd the following Letter from Colonel Adlercron.

To GEORGE PIGOT ESQR.
PRESIDENT & GOVERNOR, &CA. GENTLEMEN
OF THE SECRET COMMITTEE.

Gentlemen,

The reason you were pleas'd to alledge to me yesterday for delaying to proclaim the War against France, was far from being Satisfactory to me, there being no doubt but that the Government at Pondichery are well acquainted with his Britannic Majesty's having declar'd war against their Nation; and if so, they will proceed to Hostilities, whenever they find themselves in a Condition so to do, without paying

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, NOVEMR 1756.*—— [18TH.]

the least regard whether you have gone thro' the Ceremony of Proclaiming it, or not; Be this as it may, I must desire you wou'd give me your reasons in writing, that I may transmit them by this opportunity to the Secretary of State, in order to be laid before the King my Master, and so clear myself, shou'd this delay of yours be found fault with by his Majesty. As I am told the Ship is to Sail very Shortly, I must beg the favor of your immediate answer, as also of a general Return of the Company's Troops now upon the Coast, which I Shall send to the Government at the same time.

I cannot consent to our Soldiers being employ'd as labourers, as I am well assured the Men wou'd be displeased, were they set about any Cooley work, the Surgeon has likewise represented to me, that this wou'd endanger their health, besides that, from the number of our Sick the duty of our Garrison is too hard to admit of their being so employ'd. As to what Artificers you may have occasion for, I shall direct them to attend you, whenever you are pleas'd to call for them.

I am Gentlemen
Your most Obedient
humble Servant
JOHN ADLERCRON.

Fort St. George
19th NOVEMR. 1756.

Answer wrote and sent immediately as follows.

To JOHN ADLERCRON ESQR.
COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF THE LAND FORCES IN INDIA.

Sir,

We have receiv'd your letter of this date, the reasons we yesterday had the honor to give you for delaying a few days to make known Publickly his Majesty's Declaration of War against France are, that by the last Letter the President receiv'd from Fort St. David he has reason to believe the French had not the advice of the War, and we Judg'd it quite prudent that all the Company's Out Garrisons Shou'd be acquainted with it, in order to be as much as possible upon their Guard before so certain a Knowledge of the War Shoud come to the French as a Publick Proclamation of it here, wou'd give them in a day or two, we hope upon a Reconsideration these Reasons will have the same Weight with You that they have with us. If not, we don't doubt but they will be Sufficient to clear you of any Blame, as your Readiness to proclaim the War will very evidently appear.

We are quite astonish'd at your Saying you cannot consent that any of the Soldiers Shou'd be employ'd in raising the Works of the Fortification as you so readily offer'd it yesterday, you must be Sensible nothing is more common in Europe than for the men to be employ'd even on Private Service and your Refusing this, will put it out of our Power to employ our own People, we hope therefore you will reconsider this also and lend us all the Assistance in your power towards so great an End as compleating the Fortifications at this critical Juncture. We please ourselves with hopes the men will have no objection as they will be daily paid for their Labor, and we think that working a few hours in the Morning and Evening, cannot in the least prejudice their health, but upon any Appearance of such bad Consequence we Shall be the first to desire it may be discontinued.

A General Return of the Company's Troops is making out for you, and We are

Sir
Your most Obedt & humble Servants

GEORGE PIGOT—STRINGER LAWRENCE—HENRY POWNEY—ROBERT ORME—WILLM. PERCEVAL—ROBT. PALK.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, NOVEMR 1756.*——

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

SATURDAY THE 20TH. GEORGE PIGOT ESQR. GOVERNOR PRESIDENT
STRINGER LAWRENCE HENRY POWNEY
ROBERT ORME WILLIAM PERCEVAL
ROBERT PALK.

Letter to the Secret Committee of the Honble the East India Company dated this day, to go by the Ship Chesterfield Read in the fair Copy and sign'd Order'd that the Packet to the Secret Committee be clos'd this Evening.

GEORGE PIGOT.

HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.
ROBT. PALK.

Colonel Lawrence embark'd on the Chesterfield for Fort St. David.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

FRYDAY THE 26TH. GEORGE PIGOT ESQR. GOVERNOR PRESIDENT
HENRY POWNEY ROBERT ORME
WILLIAM PERCEVAL ROBERT PALK.

It being Stipulated by the 8th Article of the Provisional Treaty that whichever of the two Nations shall receive first, Answers from Europe concerning the Truce shall communicate bonâ fide the said Answers to the other Nation, a Debate arose whether the Advice of the War ought or ought not to be transmitted to Mr. De Leyrit—As the Declaration of War is doubtless to be esteemed a definitive Answer to the Truce, in Strict Conformity to the beforementione'd Article, Notice of it shou'd be sent to Pondichery, but it is necessary first to weigh the Conveniences and Inconveniences of Such a Step. We are as yet uncertain whether Mr. Leyrit has receiv'd the news or not, If he has, he thinks it unnecessary to communicate it to us; If he has not; our giving him Publick Notice without being in a Capacity and in Readiness to enter upon some Action will expose our Weakness, and can only Serve to make the Enemy more allert in attacking such Places as lie most open to their Insults, particularly the Company's Northern Settlements. It is Agreed therefore not to advise Mr. Leyrit of the War and further if Colonel Adlercron shou'd again mention the necessity of Reading the Declaration at the Head of the Troops the President is desir'd to represent to him that it may be of bad consequence to do it untill we know that the News has reach'd our Northern Factories which being in a very weak State will require Time to provide for the Security of the Company's Effects in Readiness against any Emergency.

Letters from Mr. Wynch at Fort St David Read as follow.

TO THE HONBLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQR.
& THE GENTLEMEN OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE AT FORT ST GEORGE.

Gentlemen,

I now forward you the List of the Spys at the different Settlements, with the Hircarras kept to carry Intelligence, four of the latter I have Struck off this month, as I think the remainder full Sufficient, I have directed the Paymaster to charge the amount in his Books for Secret Service.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, NOVEMR 1756.*—— [26th]

Conformable to your Orders Mr. Clive directed the Storekeeper to lay in the necessarys mentioned in the Annexed List, at the Bottom of which is put down such part as is already purchas'd. Please to favor me with your Directions whether you woud have any more laid in.

I am with Respect Gentlemen

Your Faithful & most hble Servant

ALEXR WYNCH

Fort St David
1st Novemr. 1756.

Ordered to be purchased	
Ghee	150 Duppers
Lamp Oil	30000 Seer
Cocoanut Oil	2000 Do.
Candles	15 Candy
Wax	10 Candy
Biscuit	10 Candy
Wheat	9 Garse
Vinegar	20 Casks
Salt	20 Garse from the Renter
Firewood	20 Lack from Devecota
Salt Fish	100000 from Do.

In Store	
Lamp Oil	20000 Seer
Cocoanut Oil	2000 Do.
Ghee	8 Can. 12½mds
Candles	3 „ 10½ „
Biscuit	10 Candy
Firewood	4 Lack recd. from Devecota
Salt Fish	1500 Do.

Besides the Salt Beef, Pork, & Arrack receiv'd from his Majesty's Squadron.

The Honble Company Dr

	Pagds.	Fans.	Rups.	Pagds.	Fans.
To 1 Vakeel Rangopuntoloo ...	3	„			
To 1 Do. Coopia	2	18			
				5	18
To 1 Spy Narsia				1	18
To 12 Hircarras eā. at 8 Rupees ℔ month			96		
To 1 Spy at Negapatam, his Pay 2 Pagda Batty fs 45 pr. mo. ...	2	45			
To 2 Peons attends him eā. Pay fs. 30 Batty fs. 30 ℔ mo. ...		120			
				2	165
To 1 Spy at Carical his Pay Pagds 2 Batty fs. 45 ℔ mo.	2	45			
To 2 Peons attends him eā. Pay fs. 30 Batty 45 pr. mo. ..		120			
				2	165
To 1 Spy at Chelumbrum his Pay Pagds 1 fs. 18 Batty fs. 45 pr. mo.	1	63			
To 1 Peon attends his Pay fs. 25 Batty fs. 30 pr. mo.		55			
				1	118
To 1 Spy at Poniretty & Trivenalore his Pay 2 Pagds Batty fs. 30 ℔ month	2	30			
To 2 Peons attends him eā. Pay fs. 30 Batty fs. 30 pr. mo. ...		120			
				2	150
To 1 Spy at Pondichery his Pay fs. 40 Batty fs. 45 pr. mo. ...		85			
To 3 Peons attends him eā. Pay fs. 30 Batty fs. 30 Do. ...		180			
					265
Rupees ...			96	Ps. 13	„ 899

From the 1st.
To 31st. October 1756

ALEXR. WYNCH.

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[26TH.] ——*FORT ST· GEORGE, NOVEMR 1756.*——

To THE HOÑBLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQR·
PRESIDENT AND GOVERNOR & THE GENTLEMEN OF THE SELECT
COMMITTEE AT FORT ST· GEORGE.

Gentlemen,

I am just favor'd with your Letter of the 13th Instant, advising me of the Declaration of War with France, I shall give the necessary Directions that the Garrison be kept in continual Posture of Defense, and you may depend on the earliest Intelligence if any Motions are made by the French from Pondichery.

If any opportunity offers I must recommend it to you to send three or four of the large Iron Boilers, there being nothing of that kind in this Garrison and which I think will be very requisite in case of a Siege; Some Spirits of Wine and Turpentine for Composition of Fuzees &c is much wanted, and a few Timbers of a proper Size for Mortar Beds, what else may appear necessary I Shall transmit you an Indent of in a few days.

I am most Respectfully
Gentlemen
Your Faithful and most
Obedient Servant
ALEXR· WYNCH.

Fort St· David
18th November 1756.

Agreed that the Directions which it may be necessary to send from this Board to Fort St· David be addressed to Colonel Lawrence and Mr Wynch jointly and that they be now wrote, to purchase such further Stores and Provisions as Colonel Lawrence shall judge to be absolutely necessary for the Garrison, or as many of them as are procurable there, and to send us a List of the Rest which we will endeavor to supply them with the first Opportunity.

The following Letter from Mr· James Bourchier at Devecota, Read.

To THE HOÑBLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQR·
&C· GENTLEMEN OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE.

Hoñble Sir, & Sirs

I have been favor'd with your Letter of the 13th Instant and in very Days [*sic*] shall lay before the President and Council a Plan of this Garrison which will plainly evince to them the State of it's Defence.

I shall be glad to be acquainted if War is publickly to be declar'd in this Settlement.

Your Honor &c may be pursuaded that I shall be as alert as possible in acquainting you with every Step the Enemy may take; and that I am with Respect

Hoñble Sir, & Sirs
Your most Obedt· hble. Servant
JAS· BOURCHIER.

Devecotah
22d· Novemr· 1756.

In answer to the foregoing Agreed to write Mr· Bourchier that the War is not to be declar'd publickly.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, NOVEMR 1756.*—— [26m=]

Letter from Captain Caillaud Read.

Viz^{t}.

To the Hoñble George Pigot Esqr.
President and Governor &^{c} Gentlemen
of the Committee at Madras.

Hoñble Sir, & Sirs (No. 41.)

I had the honor of addressing you the 2^{d} Instant N°. 40, nothing has occurred since material in the Madura Affairs. Mahofoz Cawn's Jemidars set out, and promises for his master that every thing shall remain quiet untill your Pleasures on his last Offers are known.

Inclos'd I have the honor to transmit the monthly Accounts and Returns for October & to remain with great Respect

Hoñble Sir, & Sirs
Your most Obedient and
Faithful Servant
John Caillaud.

Trichenopoly
4th Novem^{r}. 1756.

As the Letters from Fort S^{t}. David, Devecota, and Trichenopoly will be in danger of falling into the hands of the Enemy. It is Agreed that the Returns of the Garrison be not sent in the usual manner; only a Monthly List of Alterations; from which compar'd with the last Returns, the Present State of the Garrisons may be seen.

Letters from Captain Polier Commanding at Changleput and Captain Preston Commanding at Arcot Read, acknowledging the Receipt of the news of the war, the former desiring to be supplied with Six Gun Carriages according to an Indent and a few other Small Stores; the latter some Tar.

Ordered that Such of the Gun Carriages as have been made for Changleput and are now here be sent out, with the other Small Stores as far as they can be Spared, and that some Tar be sent to Arcot.

Agreed that Ensign Bannatyne be Sent to take Charge of the Fort of Carangoly, untill his arrival that be under care of Captain Polier who is to direct the Seapoys that are dispers'd in different Parts of the Contested Country to retire to the Fort in case they Shou'd be attack'd by a Superior Force of the Enemy.

And as Captain Polier by his long Residence at Changleput must be well acquainted with the Situation of the Countries, it is Agreed to desire his Opinion what Places will be most convenient for Posts of Seapoys as well to Secure our own Districts from Insult as to annoy the Enemy.

Letters from the Nabob Read, as in the Book of Country Correspondence N°. 330 accompanying a Paper of Intelligence from Ponna, the Capital of Balazarow, which mentions that the two English Gentlemen who were sent there from Bombay have agreed to give up the Fort of Yeacha Durg (Gheria) to Balazarow with half the ready money that was taken N°. 332 recommending to send a Reinforcement to Settle the Disturbances at Madura, and Tinnevelly N°. 333 & 334 advising of the Warlike Preparations making by the Killedar of Chetteput.

Concerning the Disturbances at Madura and Tinnevelly the Nabob is already advis'd that it is our Opinion a Way must be found to Satisfy Mahofaz Cawn and the Discharged Troops; and so the Troubles be ended by an Accommodation, it being impossible to Send Reinforcements thither at this time; and it is now Agreed again to recommend to the Nabob to consider of a Proper method of providing for Mahofoz Cawn as Speedily as possible—Agreed also to write a Letter to the Killedar of Chetteput advising him of the War, assuring him of our Readiness to assist him as formerly, that we are glad to hear his Troops are prepar'd for action, and desire to know what is his first Design. We hope by this means to find out the Intentions of his late Armament which are at present doubtfull.

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[26TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, NOVEMR. 1756.*——

Letters from the Terpetty Renter and Tasealdar Read as enterd in the Country Correspondence N°. 327 & 328, accompanying a Bill on Gocul Terwaddy for Pagodas thirteen thousand (13,000) due the 11th December in further part Paymt of the first or September Kist of the present Year of Phasely 1166.

Ordered that Report be made to the President and Council of the Receipt of the said Bill that they may give Directions concerning it.

Letter from Usoff Cawn as enterd N°. 329 Read inclosing the accounts of the Pay & Batta of the Seapoys &ca under his command unto the 31st of October.

Resolved to meet tomorrow morning at 9 o'Clock to examine the Said Accounts.

A Paper of Intelligence from Salabat Jung's Camp, entered N°. 331 in the Country Correspondence, mentions that the Mogul has Set out from Delly on an Expedition to Bengal, & that Balezarow intends for the Carnateck.

GEORGE PIGOT.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
WILLM PERCEVAL.
ROBT PALK.

Sent the following Letters to Messrs. Lawrence & Wynch, Mr. James Bourchier & Captain Caillaud pursuant to the foregoing Resolutions.

To STRINGER LAWRENCE
& ALEXANDER WYNCH ESQRS.

Gentlemen,

We have receiv'd Mr. Wynch's Letters dated the 1st & 18th Instant, with the list of Provisions that have been laid in for the use of the Garrison of Fort St. David. Whatever more Colonel Lawrence Shall Judge to be absolutely necessary must be provided without Loss of time. We have no Spare Iron Boilers nor such Timbers as Mr. Wynch writes for, these and Such other Stores as you may have occasion for we desire you will purchase as far as they are procurable with you the rest we will endeavor to Supply you with by the first Opportunity.

As it may now be inconvenient to Send the Regular Returns we wou'd only have you transmit monthly a Note of the Alterations that have happen'd which by refering to your last Returns will Shew us the State of your Garrison.

We are Gentlemen
Your most Obedient Servants
GEORGE PIGOT &ca COMMITTEE.

Fort St. George
27th November 1756.

To MR. JAMES BOURCHIER.

Sir,

We have receiv'd your Letter of the 22d. As it may now be inconvenient to Send the regular Returns in the usual manner we wou'd only have you transmit monthly a Note of the Alterations that have happen'd which by refering to your last Returns will Show us the State of your Garrison.

The War is not to be declared Publickly.

We are Sir
Your most Obedt. Servants
GEORGE PIGOT &CA. COMMITTEE.

Fort St. George
27th Novemr. 1756.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, NOVEMR. 1756.*—— [27TH.]

To CAPTAIN CAILLAUD.

Sir (No. 45)

We have receiv'd your Letter of the 4th with the monthly Papers inclos'd. As it may now be inconvenient to Send your Returns in the usual manner, we wou'd only have you transmit monthly a Note of the Alterations that have happen'd which by refering to your last Returns will Show us the State of your Garrison.

We are Sir
Your most Obedt. Servants
GEORGE PIGOT &ca COMMITTEE.

Fort St. George
27th Novem. 1756.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

GEORGE PIGOT ESQR. GOVERNOR PRESIDENT. SATURDAY THE 27TH
HENRY POWNEY ROBERT ORME
WILLIAM PERCEVAL ROBERT PALK.

The Accounts of the Troops under the Command of Usoff Cawn being laid before the Committee the Expences to the 30th October last are found to amount to Pagodas . . . 10,305–38 and Rupees 341,685–10–60.

Out of which Mahofoz Cawn is to pay for the time the Government of Tinnavely was in his hands Rupees 43,000

Usoff Cawn Pagodas . . . 10,305–38 & Rups. 298,685–10–60

Receiv'd by Usoff Cawn from the Countries assign'd over to him by Mahofoz Cawn unto the Arrival

of Tetarapah Moodille & From the Polligars	110,612–1–60	
From the Renter Moodille	67,954–1– ,,	
		178,566– 2–60

Receiv'd by Usoff Cawn and paid to the Troops

Arrears due from Usoff Cawn to the Troops as by his account, Pags. 10,305–38 and Rs. 120,119– 8– ,,

The Particulars of the Charges being then examin'd the Batta to the Seapoys is found to exceed the Regulations considerably. The following is the Statement of the difference.

Each Subidar by the Regulations shou'd have	fs. p. day 8 has receed.	12 Differce.	4
——Jemidar	4	6	2
——Havildar	2	4	2
——Naigue	2	4	2
——Seapoy	2	3	1
	18	29	11

The Excess therefore upon this Article is 11 in 29 which makes a Difference upon the whole Account of above fifty thousand (50,000) Rupees. Agreed that a Statement of it be transmitted to Usoff Cawn with orders to deduct it from the Arrears due, and Captain Caillaud be directed to furnish him with a Copy of the Pay and Batta Lists from the Book of Regulations for his future Guidance.

There appearing also in the Account Some other unusual Charges Order'd that the Commissary go through a more particular Examination of the whole, and Report his Observations to the Committee.

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[27TH.] —— *FORT ST. GEORGE, NOVEMR. 1756.* ——

Agreed to recommend to Captain Caillaud to make a further Trial to reduce, or totally to Strike off the Batta of the Trichenopoly Garrison, and to put it on the Same Footing as Arcot and Changleput.

Also to repeat our former Orders that he use his utmost Endeavors to Settle an Accommodation with Mahofoz Cawn as Speedily as possible so that Usoff Cawn may be recall'd and the heavy Expence of those Troops put an End to.

As in the Dangers and Uncertainties of War a Constant Attention will be requisite for the Security & Protection of the Company's Possessions. It is Resolved and made a Standing Order that this Committee meet every Monday and Thursday at nine ôClock in the Morning.

GEORGE PIGOT.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.
ROBT. PALK.

Sent the following Letter to Captain Caillaud pursuant to the foregoing Resolution.

(No. 46) TO CAPTAIN CAILLAUD.

Sir

We have had under Examination the accounts of Pay and Batta to the Troops commanded by Usoff Cawn, who has considerably exceeded the Regulations in the Article of Batta to the Seapoys; as you will perceive by the inclos'd Copy of our Letter to him. We desire you will transmit him a Copy of the Pay & Batta Lists from the Book of Regulations for his future Guidance. The Overcharge for the time past we have order'd to be deducted from the Arrears as we shall also any Differences that may be discoverd in the other Articles which are to be further examin'd and a Report to be made to us.

Upon a Review of the vast Expence of these Troops we Judge it more & more necessary to recal them as Speedily as possible. We hope you will be able to Settle with Mahofoz Cawn so far as to bring him away to Trichenopoly so that Usoff Cawn may also return with his Seapoys; as yet we have no Answer from the Nabob concerning the Provision to be made for Mahofoz Cawn.

We hop'd you wou'd before this have found means to reduce further, if not totally to Strike off, the Batta of your Garrison; It is a very heavy Charge and we recommend to you to lessen it as soon as possible. If Provisions are as cheap with you as at Arcot and Changleput, your Garrison Shou'd be put upon the same footing, that is without any Batta excepting only to the Commanding Officer in consideration of the necessity he may be sometimes under of entertaining Strangers.

We are Sir
Your most Obedient Servants
GEORGE PIGOT &CA COMMITTEE.

Fort St George
27TH NovR 1756.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

MONDAY THE 29TH

GEORGE PIGOT ESQR. GOVERNOR PRESIDENT
HENRY POWNEY ROBERT ORME
WILLIAM PERCEVAL ROBERT PALK.

The President acquaints the Committee that by a Letter from Mr Wynch dated the 25th he is advis'd that Colonel Lawrence landed at Fort St David early that Morning and the Ship stood out of the Road again immediately with a favorable Wind.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, NOVEMR 1756.*—— [29mo.]

Letter from the Governor & Council of Tranquebar Read as follows.

To the Hoñble Governor & Council of Fort St George.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

The Letter wherewith you have honor'd us written the 25th of last month, we have well receiv'd together with the Copy of the King of Tanshour's Letter to you. By which answer of the King to you we see how he continueth in endeavoring to persuade your Honor's that he on his side is in the greatest right, and that on the contrary we on our side are in the wrong. But the falseness and Untruth of this Pretext he giveth out appeareth clearly enough by the great and notorious contradictions wherewith he writeth concerning this matter in his divers Letters to you and to other Persons. The King hath so highly exaggerated the narration of the Naigen's money owing to us, like as if that were the Knot to be untied, tho' this is far from the main point, the original reason of our Undertakings being quite another Vizt Permal Niaken's impertinent Dealing and coarse Insolence against the Company's Territory, as we have long ago clearly enough given to understand as well to your Honor as to the King himself, which ought to have taken into Consideration, and credit to be given to our true Account, Vizt, that not our Demand hath inticed us to such an Extremity.

It is so, that we never have written to the King concerning our Demand of what Permal Naiken oweth to us, by reason we made but little account of it. But can the King without being asham'd deny our having given Intelligence to him about the Permal naiken's Insolences & Theivery practicd against it? But what answer have we gotton upon it? Impertinent Letters, which without doubt have been styled without the King's Knowledge by Monosiappa & Permal Naiken conspiring together. When therefore the King as Permal Naiken's master wou'd not order satisfaction to be given to us against this man, the question is where else we shou'd seek it? With the Naiken himself? But where shou'd we attack him except in the King's Territory? And this hath been like to be look'd upon, and hath been really look'd upon as a Crime against the King.

We do represent this to your Honor only on purpose that you may perceive by it, how false are the accounts sent to you about this Affair from the Court of Tanshour. And at the same time we wou'd also not omit to thank your Honors obligedly for the trouble taken and Office employ'd on our behalf in this Affair.

As for the rest we hope to get more seasonable time and Opportunity of obtaining against the troublesome Permal Naiken the Satisfaction so reasonable but as yet denied. We have the honor of assuring you, that we are and remain with all Esteem.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

Your most humble Servants

H. G. Krog &c &c &c.

Tranquebar

5th Novemr 1756.

As the Gentlemen at Tranquebar have resolved to wait a more favorable Opportunity of renewing their Demand. It is unnecessary for us to take any further Measures on that head.

The Dutch Factory at Tevenepatam being Situated so near to the walls of Fort St David that it is universally Judg'd to be a very convenient Lodgment for an Enemy intending to form the Siege of that Place, and there having been also a Til'd House erected at the Foot of the Glacis, the Committee think it absolutely necessary to remove those Buildings and every other Impediment to the Defence of that Fort, it is Resolv'd to send Orders accordingly to Colonel Lawrence & Mr Wynch.

Agreed to write a Letter to the Governor and Council of Negapatam to acquaint them with our foregoing Resolution relating to the Dutch House that the present

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[29th.]

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, NOVEMR 1756.*——

Situation of our Affairs wou'd not admit of the Delay which wou'd be occasion'd by our waiting for their Approbation, but that their Resident may remain if they think proper at Cuddalore where he shall be furnish'd with the best accommodations possible and enjoy the usual Priviledges and when the War is over we shall erect them a House in the most convenient Place.

For this Purpose Order'd that Colonel Lawrence & Mr. Wynch cause an Exact Survey and Plan to be made of the Dutch House before they begin to destroy it.

Letter from Balazarow Read as enter'd No. 341 in the Book of Country Correspondence advising that he shall soon march to these Parts & write to us for what may be necessary.

As an Alliance with this head of the Morattas may be of the greatest use in disappointing any Schemes the French may have form'd or may form for making any Conquests in India, It is Agreed immediately to write an answer to Balazarow's beforemention'd Letter expressing our Satisfaction at the news of his Intentions to come to these Parts and Assuring him of our Readiness to Join and Assist him.

A Paper of Intelligence from Pondichery mentions that two hundred and fifty Seapoys are to be sent from thence to Wondivash. The President is desired to write a letter to the Killedar there to endeavor to preserve him in our Interest and prevent his receiving French Seapoys. Agreed also to desire Colonel Lawrence to write to the Killedars of Ellavanasor & Wolconda for the same Purpose.

GEORGE PIGOT.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
WILLM. PERCEVAL.
ROBT. PALK.

Pursuant to the foregoing Resolutions Sent the following Letters to Messrs. Lawrence & Wynch at Fort St. David, and to the Governor & Council of Negapatam.

To THE HOÑBLE STEPHEN VERMONT ESQR.
PRESIDENT FOR THE AFFAIRS OF THE NETHERLANDS EAST INDIA COMPANY ON THE COAST OF CHOROMANDEL, AND THE REST OF THE GENTLEMEN OF THE COUNCIL AT NEGAPATAM.

Hoñble Sir, & Sirs,

Upon the News we have lately receiv'd of the War declar'd by the King of Great Britain against France on the 17th May last we are under the necessity of taking all proper Measures for the Defence and Security of the Forts and Possessions of the East India Company. The too great Vicinity of your Factory at Tevenepatam to Fort St David renders it so convenient and so Strong a Lodgement for an Enemy that we find ourselves indispensibly oblig'd to remove it without Loss of time, and have accordingly Sent Directions to pull down that Building. We have ordered an exact Survey and Plan to be first made of the House, and after the Re-establishment of Peace we Shall if you approve of it erect another for you in Such Place as Shall be Judg'd most convenient. In the mean time we have given orders to provide your Resident with the best Accomodations that can be procur'd in Cuddalore where he may remain if you think Proper and be assur'd of the necessary Assistance and Protection and the Enjoyment of your former Priviledges.

We doubt not Gentlemen but you will perceive the absolute Necessity of our taking the beforemention'd Resolution and excuse our not waiting for your Approbation, as the Time will not permit any Delay.

We remain with the utmost Respect & Esteem

Hoñble Sir, & Sirs,
Your friends and most Obdt.
humble Servants
GEORGE PIGOT &CA COMMITTEE.

Fort St. George
29 t Novemr. 1756.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, NOVEMR 1756.*—— [29ᵗʰ.]

To Stringer Lawrence & Alexr. Wynch Esqrs.

Gentlemen,

Taking into Consideration the cover which an Enemy might receive from some Buildings Situated too near to the Fortifications of St. David we think necessary to direct that you proceed without Loss of time to pull down the Dutch Factory at Tevenepatam, the Til'd house which Stands at the Foot of your Glacis and every Building which the Engineer may Judge to be hurtful to the Defences of the Fort.

We have acquainted the Governor & Council of Negapatam with our Resolution concerning their Factory and we inclose you our Letter in two Copies, one of which you are to forward to Negapatam, the other deliver to the Dutch Resident to be forwarded by him.

In consequence of what we therein mention, you are to direct the Engineer to take an exact Survey and Plan of the Dutch Factory before you begin to destroy it, and provide in the best manner Possible for their Resident if he chuses to remain in Cuddalore.

We desire Colonel Lawrence will write Letters of Friendship to the Killedars of Ellavanasore & Wolconda and endeavor to preserve them in our Interest.

We are Gentln.
Your most Obedt. servants
George Pigot &ca. Committee.

Fort St. George
29th Novemr. 1756.

At a Committee

Present

George Pigot Esqr. Governor President
Henry Powney — Robert Orme
. . . — Robert Palk
Mr. Perceval *indispos'd.*

Thursday Decemr the 2d.

Letter from Captain Smith at Trichenopoly read advising that Captain Caillaud Set out for Madras the 23d. November at Noon in consequence of our Orders of the 9th.

As our Directions to Capt. Caillaud to return to his Garrison were dispatch'd the 13th they will probably have met him very early on his Journey.

A Paper of Intelligence from Salabat Jung's Camp (as Enter'd No. 345 in the Book of Country Correspondence) Read advising that Mr. Bussy and Mr. Law took their Leave of Salabat Jung the 10th Novemr. and purpos'd to march the next day but whether with the whole or a Part of the Troops was not Known.

The Paper mentions further that they told Salabat Jung they were going to visit the Rajahmundrum & Siccacul Countries and shou'd be back with him in two Months. This however can be only Conjecture and the Committee is inclin'd to beleive that this Motion may be making in Consequence of the news of the War with design either to attack our Northern Settlements or to make the best of their Way to Pondichery to be in Readiness to enter early upon Action in this Province with united Force.

Shou'd the former be their Intentions any Efforts to relieve those Settlements against so large a Body of the Enemy wou'd be vain; as well as too late, All that can be endeavor'd at is to Save the Company's Effects, to which Purpose it is Agreed to dispatch Orders to the chiefs of Vizagapatam, Ingeram, & Bandermalanka to keep

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[2nd.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, DECEMR 1756.*——

Vessels in Readiness at the mouths of their Respective Rivers and upon the first News of an Enemy marching towards them to embark their Bales and other Valuable Effects and Send them hither.

Resolved also to write to Admiral Watson Colonel Clive and the Committee at Bengal to acquaint them of this Motion of the Enemy which we are of Opinion renders it necessary to hasten the Return of as many Troops as possible to this Coast, as the Chief Strength of the Enemy will doubtless be exerted here.

The Tents made up last year being render'd for the most Part useless by the heavy Rains they were expos'd to, Order'd that new Tents be made up for four hundred men and that the Officers in the Company's Service provide themselves with Tents as is universally practis'd in his Majesty's Service.

Letter from the Nabob read (as enter'd in the Country Correspondence N°. 343) containing further Intelligence of the Levies of Troops making by the Killedar of Chetteput. The Intention of this Killedar is yet a Mystery but as all our Garrisons are Sufficiently provided against any Attempts that he can make, we think it unnecessary to take any further Measures untill he Shall appear to have designs prejudicial to the Nabob's or Company's Interest.

GEORGE PIGOT.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
ROBR. PALK.

Pursuant to the foregoing Resolutions sent the following Letters to Admiral Watson, the Bengal Committee, Colonel Clive, and to the Chiefs of Vizagapatam, Ingeram & Bandermalanka.

To CHARLES WATSON ESQR.
VICE ADMIRAL OF THE BLUE & COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF HIS MAJESTY'S SQUADRON IN INDIA.

Sir

We dispatch'd on the 16th November a Duplicate of the Letter we had the honor to write you the 13th and now inclose a Triplicate Copy.

We have lately receiv'd Advice that Mr. Bussy and Mr. Law took their Leave of Salabat Jung the 10th Novemr. and that they were to march the next day. Whether the whole of their Troops were to move or only a part we have not learnt, or what is their Destination, but we think it very likely a large part of them are recalled and as Such an Additional Force wou'd render their Numbers far Superior to ours, we now enforce to Colonel Clive our Directions to return immediately and bring as many men with him as Possible.

We have yet receiv'd no Advices from Anjengo of the Arrival of the Twenty Gun Ship.

We have the honor to be
Sir, Your most Obedient
humble Servants

Fort St. George
2d. Decemr. 1756.

GEORGE PIGOT &CA COMMITTEE.

To THE HOÑBLE ROGER DRAKE ESQR.
PRESIDENT & GOVERNOR & THE REST OF THE GENTLEMEN OF THE COMMITTEE AT BENGAL.

Gentlemen

We wrote you under date the 13th Novr. dispatch'd a Duplicate the 16th and now inclose a Triplicate.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, DECEMR. 1756.*—— [2ND.]

By the Intelligence we have since receiv'd from Golconda we have reason to believe that the French Troops which were join'd to Salabat Jung are before this on their way to Pondichery where Reinforcements are also expected from the Islands. The Possession of all the English Establishments in India will most certainly depend on the Success of the Opposition that can be made against this collected Force of the Enemy. We doubt not therefore but you will do every thing in your Power to hasten Colonel Clive's Return and make up his Command as large as Possible detaining no more of the men sent you from Bombay & from hence than are absolutely necessary for the Defence of Calcutta; that the great Force of the French will undoubtedly be exerted on this Coast, if we are not enabled to oppose them by a Reinforcement of all the Troops lately sent to you, any fatal Events that may happen will be attributed to the want of those Troops. We therefore think it our Duty to represent this to you in the Strongest Light.

We are Gentlemen

Your most Obedt. hble. Servants

GEORGE PIGOT &CA COMMITTEE.

Fort St. George
2nd Decemr. 1756.

To ROBERT CLIVE ESQR.

Sir

Inclos'd is Triplicate of our Letter of the 13th Novemr. which has already been dispatch'd in two Copies.

We have since receiv'd News that Mr. Bussy and Mr. Law took their leave of Salabat Jung the 10th Novemr. and were to march it is said the next day whether with the whole or a Part of the Troops, or to what Place, is not mention'd, but we think it most probable their Destination is for Pondichery there to Join the Troops expected from the Islands and make up a formidable Force for Action in this Province. It becomes therefore more necessary for you to hasten your Return and to bring as many Troops as possible with you both of the Madras & Bombay Detachments. We must drop for the Present all Schemes of Action in Bengal and bend our whole Force and Attention against the collected Strength of the Enemy on this Coast.

We are Sir

Your most Obedient Servants

GEORGE PIGOT &CA COMMITTEE.

Fort St. George
2nd Decemr. 1756.

To MR. JOHN LEWEN SMITH
PROVISIONAL CHIEF AT VIZAGAPATAM.

Sir

We have receiv'd Intelligence of the 10th Novr. that the French Troops under Mr. Bussy were about to move. We are unacquainted what Rout they may take but it is not improbable they may have Designs against our Northern Settlements. We therefore think it necessary to direct that you keep as many Vessels as are necessary in constant Readiness at the mouth of the River; That upon the first news of Troops moving towards you, You may embark your Bales and other Valuable Effects and Send them hither.

We are Sir

Your most Obedient Servants

GEORGE PIGOT &CA COMMITTEE.

Fort St. George
2nd Decemr. 1756.

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[2ND] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, DECEMR. 1756.*——

The same

To Foss Wescott Esqr. Resident at Ingeram
& To Mr. John Andrews Resident at Bandermalanka.

At a Committee

Present.

Monday the 6th. George Pigot Esqr. Governor President
Henry Powney Robert Orme
. . . Robert Palk
Mr. Perceval *indispos'd.*

The following Letters from Colonel Lawrence & Mr. Wynch Read.

To the Hoñble George Pigot Esqr.
& the Gentlemen of the Select Committee at Fort St. George.

Gentlemen,

This morning we were favor'd with your Letter of the 27th.

We are concern'd it is not in your Power to Spare this Garrison any of the Iron Boilers as in Case of a Siege we shall feel the want of them greatly.

On Colonel Lawrences Arrival, we looked over the calculate of Provisions which was sent you in May last, & finding the greatest part of them necessary, Mr. Wynch laid it before the Council of this Place, & they are Ordered to be purchas'd by the Gentlemen According to the different Employs, & Assistants Appointed them to take care & see them deliver'd out, when there may be occasion to make use of them.

The Hospital at Cuddalore being much out of Repair, & two Squares of Stabling at Tevenepatam on a Survey being found to be a much properer Place. This, & its being under the Fort Guns, so that on any Emergency the men can be drawn in, Induced us to direct the Engineer to begin and put it in proper Order, as also to demolish the Houses and Level the Ground, between the Fort & the Dutch Factory. We Judging these Steps very necessary to be put directly in Execution, We took the Liberty of Ordering them without waiting for your Orders.

The Difference between the Returns of this Month and last is five men, one Deserter being receiv'd from Pondichery and 4 Coffreys entertain'd.

Every thing is regulating in the best manner for the Defense of this Place, and we hope it will be found properly so in case the Enemy Shou'd pay us a Visit.

We are Gentlemen
Your Faithful & most
Obedient Servants

Fort St. David
30th Novemr. 1756.

Stringer Lawrence & Alexr. Wynch.

To the Hoñble George Pigot Esqr.
& the Gentlemen of the Select Committee at Fort St. George.

Gentlemen,

We have receiv'd your favor of the 29th Ulto. one of the Letters for the Governor & Council of Negapatam we Sealed & directly forwarded thither; the other we sent

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, DECEMR 1756.*—— [6ma.]

by Mr. Call (to whom we gave Directions agreable to your Orders) to the Dutch Chief and to acquaint him therewith, and that he shoud begin tomorrow upon taking the Plan, and directly after upon pulling the Factory down; who acquainted him that he wou'd forward the Letter, but that he cou'd not move without Orders from his Superiors, without a beginning was made, in which case he shou'd protest, we shall provide a Proper Lodging for him in Cuddalore, shou'd he chuse to remain in these Bounds; All the other Houses which may be of any Detriment to the Fort we shall direct to be levelled, But Colonel Lawrence is of Opinion that the Stabling which we are now repairing for the Hospital may Stand, as the walls are very thin, & by being built only with Clay, that it may easily be destroy'd even with the Guns from the Fort.

Colonel Lawrence will agreable to your Orders write to the Killedars of Ellavanasore & Wolconda, & will endeavor to Cultivate a good Understanding with them & every other Person that can be of use to us.

The note for Private Intelligence the last month is less than the Preceeding, we do not think proper to send it you as it will Shew the Situation of the different People, and make them liable to be Seized. A few more have lately been taken in as we think it necessary to make their Circuit a little larger.

Cartridge Paper both for Great Guns and Small Arms we must desire you will Supply us with, as also a little Spirits of Wine.

We are most Respectfully
Gentlemen
Your most Faithful & most
Obedient Servants

Fort St. David
2d. Decemr. 1756.

STRINGER LAWRENCE & ALEXR. WYNCH.

Ordered that the Cartridge Paper & Spirits of Wine Messrs. Lawrence & Wynch write for, be sent by the first conveyance to Fort St. David, and for the better Securing the Provisions they are laying up for the use of that Garrison from Waste and Damage it is Agreed to direct them to cause a monthly Survey of it to be made and the State of it to be reported so that any part of it that may appear to be taking Damage may be Sold off in time. The Committee approves of their Removing the Hospital from Cuddalore and of their leveling the Ground between the Fort and Tevenepatam.

Letter from Mr. James Bourchier Chief at Devecota read as follows.

To THE HONBLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQR.
PRESIDENT & GOVERNOR &c. COMMITTEE OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

Honble Sir, & Sirs,

I have the Pleasure to acknowledge the Receipt of your Favor of the 15th Ulto. and to inclose for your Inspection the Plan I mention'd in my Letter of the 9th Septr. the References thereto annexed will more perfectly explain to your Honor &ca what part of the Works are already finished, also what yet to be done, with the Alterations that will be occasion'd by the discovery of the Ditch, that I can possibly express by Letter, wherefore I shall be glad of your Directions as Speedily as Possible how far you purpose they shall be carried into execution, that I may have time to collect a Sufficiency of Artificers & Materials; It's impossible I can Judge the number of the one, or Quantity of the other that will be necessary, 'till I am favor'd with your Determinations relative thereto.

I must also observe to your Honor &ca that there is an absolute necessity to build a Small Bridge over a Gut between the Fort & the Colleroon, leading to the

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[6ma.] —— *FORT ST. GEORGE, DECEMBER 1756.* ——

Pass from Porto novo, as in case of attack we shou'd be under a necessity of transporting Cannon to defend it, which will be impractible [*sic*] without a Bridge is erected; and as the building it with wood will render it a continual expence to the Company by being frequently in want of Repair, I think tho' the first may cost a trifle more, if composed of Peers of Brick edged with Stone, in the end will be a Saving to the Company, if it meets your Approval I shall be glad of your Orders to set about it, there will be another wanting to Coillady, the estimate of the two, M^r. Hume informs me, will amount to 140 or 150 Pagodas.

The inclos'd Paper will at one view Shew your Honor &^ca the State of our Garrison, the number of effective men, and what more will be necessary for it's defence with an Indent for such Articles as are wanted for the daily use of the Settlement, I fancy on a Strict examination of it, you will find nothing Superfluous inserted, wherefore I flatter myself your Honor &^ca will readily comply with it. The Reinforcement of Seapoys are so immediately necessary for the Security of the Place, that I am persuaded there can hardly be an objection made to it; In former times of troubles there were always five or Six Companies quartered here, wherefore I look upon it as my Duty to apprise you, that the want of them, in case of emergency may render me incapable of making the Defence I anxiously would wish to do, So I leave it to your Honor &^ca consideration how requisite the Assistance of this Body of men, may be in the preservation of this Garrison.

In a Letter of the 29th July when I first took charge of this Settlement, I mention'd to your Honor &^ca the distress we were in for Gun Carriages, and Requested if Possible that you wou'd supply me with proper Timbers for that Purpose. & that if it met with your Approbation, I cou'd have them made here during the Monsoon, but was not favor'd with a Reply. I have since been Searching the Woods here for Trees that might answer the same end, and have Succeeded to my wish, I have pitch'd on a particular wood which M^r. Hume has expos'd to the weather, prov'd by fire, and in Short try'd every method to be convinced of its quality; it neither warps, or Splits, and will in every respect do as well as Teak for that Service, and on a Calculation of the expence of a Carriage for a twelve Pounder, find it will amount only to twelve Pagodas the Carriage Compleat, and in like Proportion to the Size of every Cannon we have. If your Honor &^ca consent to the making them here, I shall be able to finish the number we have occasion for by the latter end of February.

I shall be glad of your Directions whether you purpose any kind of Provision shall be laid in Store besides Paddy.

I can't help observing to your Honor &^ca that the Supply of Stationary [*sic*] I receiv'd last from Madras is so very Scanty that it will not be near Sufficient for the daily expences of the Settlement, I must therefore Request you will please to grant me a further Quantity.

I shall be glad to be informed if War is publicly to be declar'd in this Garrison, And as French Officers and sometimes men on furlow pass these Limits whether I may apprehend them as Prisoners of War.

I am with Respect
Hoñble Sir, & Sirs,
Your most Obedient humble
Servant
JAMES BOURCHIER.

Devecotah.
27th Novem^r. 1756.

The Plan of Devecotah with the works propos'd being examin'd it appears to the Committee that the clearing the Ditch and Strengthening the Rampart will Sufficiently Secure that Fort against a Surprize, and enable it to hold out untill we have made such Efforts for it's Relief as Circumstances will admit; and this we Judge

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, DECEMBER 1756.*—— [6TH.]

to be Sufficient for if the Enemy shou'd be so far superior to us in force as to carry on a Siege and overmatch our Troops in the Field at the same time, the Loss of the Out Garrisons is inevitable; On the other hand if they form the Siege of any Place and have not a covering Army, it will always be in our Power to march to the Relief of the Besieged. Agreed therefore to write Mr. Bourchier to get the Rampart and Ditch compleated as fast as possible and do nothing more — That we cannot Spare him any Reinforcement of Military & Seapoys — That we wou'd not have any Bridge built as all Difficulties of Access will be a hindrance to the Enemy.— That he may set about the Gun Carriages and send some of the Wood to Madras as it will be a great Saving to the Company if it answers Description — That besides his Provision of Paddy he may lay in some Salt and Salt Fish — And that he is not to stop any French Officer or Man that may be Passing quietly thro' his Limits without our further Directions on that Subject. We woa'd not begin the War with such trifling Molestations.

Ordered that such Part of the Stores indented for by Mr. Bourchier as can be Spar'd be sent to Devecotah by the first Opportunity.

The following Letter from Captain Caillaud Read.

To the Hoñble George Pigot Esqr President
& Governor &c. Gentlemen of the Committee at Madras.

Hoñble Sir, & Sirs,

This morning about ten miles beyond Wolconda, I was honor'd with your favor of the 13th Inst and in consequence of my orders, I am now returning to Trichenopoly & I shall to the utmost & best of my Power observe your directions.

Inclosed is an Indent which I intended having the honor to lay before you on my Arrival. I humbly recommend it to your Considerations. Every Article is necessary the Powder and Lead Particularly so.

I remain with great Respect
Hoñble Sir, & Sirs,
Your most Obedt & Faithful
Servant

Wolcondah
the 24th Novemr. 1756.

John Caillaud.

Ordered that Such Articles of Captain Caillaud's Indent as can be Spared be sent by the first conveyance to Devecota and that he concert with the Chief the most Secure Means of transporting them from thence to Trichenopoly.

Letter from the Nabob read as entered in the Country Correspondence No. 349, advising that the Inhabitants of several Districts being much alarm'd by the Preparations made by the Killedar of Chetteput he had thought proper to order his Troops to encamp without the City of Arcot in order to quiet the Apprehensions of the People and he desires that a Party of Military with a Train of Artillery may be sent to Join them.

The Expence of the Troops under the Command of Usoff Cawn lying near Madura on occasion of the Disturbances rais'd by Mahofoz Cawn, is so great, that we shou'd be very unwilling to incur a further until that ceases. We have already recommended to the Nabob to make some Provision for Mahofoz Cawn as the quickest means of obtaining that End, and having receiv'd no Answer on the Subject it is Agreed now to represent to him in the most Strenuous manner the Necessity of his

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[0—.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, DECEMR. 1756.*——

finding some means to quiet the Madura Troubles so that Usoff Cawn may come here with his Troops, without which we can neither furnish Men nor Money for the Security of the Arcot Districts.

GEORGE PIGOT.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
ROBT. PALK.

Sent the following Letters to Messrs. Lawrence & Wynch, Mr. James Bourchier & Captain Caillaud pursuant to the foregoing Resolutions.

To STRINGER LAWRENCE & ALEXR. WYNCH ESQRS.

Gentlemen,

We have receiv'd your Letters of the 30th Novemr and 2d Instant. We approve of your removing the Hospital from Cuddalore and of your leveling the Ground between the Fort and Tevenepatam. The Sooner you set to work upon the Dutch Factory, the better, you will receive the Protest of the Chief and transmit it to us.

Let your Store of Provisions be kept with great care and a monthly Report made to you of it's State so that upon the first Appearance of Damage Such Part of it may be sold off and replac'd with new. The Cartridge Paper & Spirits of Wine Shall be sent you by the first Conveyance.

We are Gentlemen
Your most Obedt. Servants
GEORGE PIGOT &CA. COMMITTEE.

Fort St. George
7th Decemr. 1756.

To MR. JAMES BOURCHIER
CHIEF AT DEVECOTAH.

Sr

We have had under Consideration your Letter of the 27th Novemr directed to the President & Council with the Plan of your Fortifications and the Indent accompanying.

Let the Rampart be Strengthened in the manner propos'd and the Ditch which you have discover'd cleared all round, without destroying any part as we wou'd not have the Contre Guards begun at this time. The Ditch and Rampart compleated will be Sufficient with Vigilance to secure you against a Surprize which is the Care we must chiefly recommend to you, for as we cannot Spare you any more men either Europeans or Seapoys, you must chiefly depend upon the Efforts which we shall make to relieve you in case the Enemy shou'd resolve to form the Siege of your Place.

We think it will be better not to build a Bridge over the Ditch which lies between the Fort & Colleroon. The Difficulty of geting Cannon over it will be a hindrance to the Enemy, and we see no Occasion for a Bridge towards Coiladdy.

By the first conveyance that offers we Shall Supply you with such Stores as we can Spare but as it will be impossible for us to compleat your Indent we desire you will let us know what Articles you are more particularly in want of. You may set about the Gun Carriages necessary for your Garrison and get them compleated as fast as possible. If the Wood proves equal to your Description it will be very useful here, and we desire you will cause a large Quantity to be cut, Saw up a part of it into Proper Plank for Gun Carriages and dry it in readiness to be sent hither by such Opportunities as you may meet with. When you have finish'd a Gun Carriage transmit us a Particular Account of it's Cost.

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——— *FORT ST. GEORGE, DECEMR. 1756.*——— [7TH.]

You may lay in a few days Store of Salt fish, and some Salt, Send an Indent for such Stationary [*sic*] as you most want and it shall be complied with.

We have already inform'd you that the War is not to be declared publickly, nor wou'd we have you Stop any French Officer or man that may be passing quietly thro' your Bounds untill you have our further Orders on this Subject.

We are Sir

Your most Obedient Servants

GEORGE PIGOT &CA COMMITTEE.

Fort St. George
7th Decemr. 1756.

To CAPTAIN JOHN CAILLAUD. (No. 47.)

Sir

We have receiv'd your letter from Wolconda dated the 24th November with the Indent inclos'd. Such Articles as we Possibly can Spare Shall be sent by the first Conveyance to Devecota and you will take measures with the Chief there for transporting them in the most secure manner to Trichenopoly.

We understand that Jemail Saib who commands the Company's Seapoys at Tinnevelly is not so alert in assisting the Renter as he ought to be. It is our Intention that those Troops shou'd be employed on such Services as Moodille Shall think necessary. They are there for that Purpose & none other. We desire you will give Orders accordingly to Usoff Cawn.

We must repeat our former Directions that you use your utmost Endeavors to put an End to the Madura Troubles. You may assure Mahofoz Cawn that a proper Provision shall be made for him; We have yet no answer from the Nabob on this Subject, inclos'd is Copy of a Letter we now write him.

We are Sir

Your most Obedient Servants

GEORGE PIGOT &CA. COMMITTEE.

Fort St. George
7th Decemr. 1756.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

GEORGE PIGOT ESQR. GOVERNOR PRESIDENT
HENRY POWNEY ROBERT ORME
... ROBERT PALK
MR PERCEVAL *indispos'd.*

THURSDAY THE 9TH.

Letters from Messrs. Lawrence & Wynch Read with Copies of a Letter and a Protest delivered them by the Dutch Chief at Tevenepatam on the Occasion of the destroying their Factory House.

To THE HOÑBLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQR.
& THE GENTLEMEN OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE AT FORT ST. GEORGE.

Gentln

Agreable to what we wrote you last night, Mr. Call begun upon the Survey of the Dutch Factory this day, on which we receiv'd a Letter from Mr. Trembly the Chief, Copy of which as also our Answer now waits on you.

We are Gentln.

Your Faithful & very
Obedient Servants

STRINGER LAWRENCE & ALEXR WYNCH.

Fort St. David
3d Decemr 1756.

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[9th] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, DECEMR. 1756.*——

Au Fort St David
À Monsieur leColonel Lawrence &À Monsr Wynch
Depute Gouverneur.

Messieurs

Ce fut avec le plus grand etonnement du monde, que j'ai appris de Monsr L'Ingineur Call venu hier au Soir, de vôtre part pour me communiquer les ordres que le Committé de Madras vous a donné, dont il donne Connoissance au Conseil de Negapatam par sa lettre du 29me. 9bre. qu'il trouve bon pour la sureté & la defense du Fort St David de s'emparer de cette Factorie pour la raser, et cela sans attendre la reponse du Conseil de Negapatam. Comme Messrs. vos Ingineurs sont occupés à lever le Plan de la ditte Loge pour ensuit commencer à en faire rompre les murailles, permettez moi Messrs de vous représenter que cette Précipitation à Suivre les ordres de vos Superieurs peut avoir des Suites de grand consequence et que cette violence de vouloir passer de la Communication de vos Ordres, a L'Execution feroit à peine usitée envers un Ennemis, J'espére Messrs que vous réfléchirez la dessus, et que les Alliances qui Subsistent entre nos Puissances Respectifs, vous engagerout à ne violer le droit des gens, et vous feront surseoir la démolition des murs, Jusqúà ce que j'aye reçu de mes Superieurs de Negapatam leurs ordres sans les quels Je ne puis rien faire, Protestant d'ailleurs en leur noms si l'on passe outre.

Je vous prie Messieurs vouloir m'honnorer d'un mot de Reponse et me croire avec toute L'Estime & laConsideration possible.

Messieurs,
Vôtre très humble et très
Obeissant Serviteur
J. B. Trembley.

Tegnepatam
le 3me 10bre 1756.

To J. B. Trembley Esqr.
Resident for the Netherlands East India Company
at Tevenepatam.

Sr

We are just favor'd with your letter of this days Date in answer to which we are only to acquaint you that we have already Communicated to you our Orders by which you will perceive we are under a necessity of putting them immediately in Execution as the safety of the Place depends upon it. We shall give orders for Providing a House for you at Cuddalore & proper Assistance to remove any Effects you may have either of your Company's or your Own.

We are Sir
Your most Obedient
humble Servants
Stringer Lawrence.
Alexr. Wynch.

Fort St. David
3d December 1756.

To the Hoñble George Pigot Esqr.
President & Governor &ca. Gentlemen of the Select Committee
at Fort St George.

Gentlemen

This day a beginning was made on the Pulling down of the Dutch Factory, On which Mr. Trembley the Chief delivered the Inclos'd Protest to our Ingineer Mr. Call.

We are with Respect
Gentlemen
Your Faithful and very
Obedient Servants
Stringer Lawrence & Alexr Wynch.

Fort St David
4th Decemr. 1756.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, DECEMR 1756.*—— [9me]

Moy sous igné Jean Jacques Batiste Trembley Resident à Tegnepatam pour la noble Compagnie Privilegiée des Païs Bas à la Côte de Choromandel.

Aux

Seigneurs Stringer Lawrence Colonel & Alexr. Wynch.

Deputé Gouverneur &c Messieurs duConseil du Fort St David.

M'ayant été communiqué le 2d du ce mois au soir de vôtre part par Mons L'Ingineur Call, une lettre ouverte pour Monsr le Gouverneur, & leConseil de Negapatam, ecritte par le Committé de Guerre de Madras en datte du 29me de 9bre pour leur faire part de la Resolution quil a pris de S'emparer de cette Loge, appartenant en toute Proprieté dêpuis passé un Siecle á la Noble Compagnie D'Hollande pour là detruire, sous pretêxte de plus grande Sureté pour la defense du Fort St. David en cas d'attaque, sans même vouloir attendre la reponse de mes Superieurs Messieurs duConseil de Negapatnam y representant la Noble Compagnie Priviligiéede Païs bas à la côte de Choromandel sous le Gouvernement de la Haute Regence de Batavia.

Je ne puis croire Messieurs de vôtre Equité et Justice que vous voulussiez malgré mes Remonstrances faire quelques choses an Prejudice et Droit de neutres et traitter en Enemie une Nation aimié et alliée ; Mais l'entreprize hardie d'envahir par la force une Possession bien reconnue de toutes les Puissances, et la violence que l'on vient d'user par votre ordre dont il n'y a aucune example dans L'Histoire en faisant rompre le murs de cette loge contre tous droits, et coutume usitée entre Puissances qui sont en paix m'oblige de protester de cet attentat fait á la Souveraineté indisputable de la noble Compagnie sur ce Terrein, cette Injustice criantte est une Infraction à la Foy des divers Traittés existantes entre sa Majesté le Roi de Grande Bretagne et leur Haute Puissance Messeignieurs les Etals Generaux ; le Fort considerable que la noble Compagnie recevra par la demolition de sa loge, me force de protester en son nom, envers et contre tous, comme Je le fais par la presente, pour le Maintien de ses droits, et Privileges de tous depens, Dommages et Interêts, reservant en outre les protestes qui pourroient Suivre, ne voulant pas etre responsable pour le moindre inconvenient qui pourroient Resulter de cette mouié usurpation laquelle peut avoir des Suittes facheuses, comme etant contraire aux Alliances sus mentionnées. Fait dans la loge de Tegenepatam ce quatrieme Decembre Mille Sept cent Ciquante Six.

Signé J. B. Trembley.

Leu et Delivré le present Protest le Pavillon arborré ā Monsr. L'Ingineur Call en Presence de Temoins Soussignés ce jour D'hui à midi Cequatrieme Decembre Mille Sept cent Cinquante Six.

Johan Zach Kiernander.

Jean Antoine Trembley.

Mr. Wynch in a Private Letter to the President mentioning the Want of one hundred Seapoys Order'd that they be sent from hence overland without Arms.

Letter from the Nabob read as Enter'd No. 352 in the Country Correspondence containing his further Intelligence from Chetteput, & accompanied with the copy of a Letter address'd to him by the Killedar of Polour, expressing his Apprehensions of being attack'd by the Chetteput Forces.

Letter from Serjeant Wilcox commanding the Party of fifteen men which we sent long ago to Chetteput to assist the Killedar in the defence of that Place, advising that the Killedar having prepar'd his Forces to march against Polour, desir'd him the Serjeant, to go also with the English Troops, but he refus'd to do it without Orders from hence.

And Letter from Captain Preston Commanding at Arcot containing the same Intelligence of the Designs of the Killedar of Chetteput.

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[9ᵗʰ.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, DECEMR 1756.*——

Polour has been always Tributary to the Nabob and is therefore entitled to our Protection. The Fort is besides so Situated as to command the Communication between Arcot and Trichenopoly which renders it materially necessary to prevent its falling into the hands of the Killedar of Chetteput, who acts without Doubt at the Instigation of the French. Agreed therefore to direct Captain Preston, in case he shou'd have reason to think the Fort of Polour in any Danger, to take the Securest Method of throwing in a few men for it's defence. Agreed also to represent to the Killedar of Chetteput the ill Consequences which his present Conduct will bring on him, and to write to the Killedar of Polour a Letter encouraging him to defend his Fort bravely, and assuring him of Relief.

As the Killedar of Chetteput upon the Knowledge of our taking part against him might revenge himself upon the small Party posted in his Fort the President is desired to send Private Orders to Serjeant Wilcox to take the first secure Opportunity of coming away with all his men to Arcot or Changleput.

A Paper of Intelligence from Salabat Jung's Camp dated 19th Novemr. entered in the Country Correspondence No. 350 gives this further advice of the Motions of the French Troops; That Mr. Bussy and Mr. Law march'd the 16th Novemr. with the whole Body except 100 Men and a large Baggage and Train and were advanced on the 19th twenty miles from Hyderabad towards the Sea Coast.

The 6th Instant Receiv'd the following Letter from the President & Council of Bengal.

To the Hoñble George Pigot Esqr President & Governor
&ca Council of Fort St George.

Hoñble Sir, & Sirs,

The accompanying Duplicate under date the 17th Ultimo was intended to be forwarded by the Ship Fame, but that Ship not proceeding or any other Sea Conveyance bound now to the Choromandel Coast. We forward the same by Pattamar and are not a little concern'd that to this date we have not been favoured with any advices from your Honour &c &c. Our Situation becomes very irksome, and since our last the Sickness has continued among our Military who are daily dying; The Moors likewise being convinced that the Season is too far advanc'd for our Proceeding out of the River (which we before endeavored to make them believe was our Intention) have begun again to hinder us in the Procurement of Fresh Provisions which if continued will greatly add to our Present bad Situation.

We are with great Respect
Hoñble Sir, & Sirs
Your most Obedt humble Servants

Fulta
13th Octr. 1756.

William Watts— Richard Becher— M. Collet
Roger Drake Junr—James Killpatrick—Paul Richard Pearkes—P. Amyatt

Private advices mention that his Majesty's Sloop Kings Fisher which sail'd from here the 22d September pass'd by Balasore the 20th October.

Ordered that Pattamars be dispatch'd with Duplicates of our Letters dated 2d Instant to Admiral Watson, the Committee at Bengal, Colonel Clive and the Northern Settlements, and to acquaint them with the further Intelligence we have receiv'd as beforemention'd, of the Motions of the French Troops from Golconda.

Letter from Mr. James Bourchier Chief at Devecotah read as follows.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, DECEMR 1756.*—— [9TH]

To the Honble George Pigot Esqr.
&ca Gentlemen of the Select Committee.

Honble Sir, & Sirs,

I have been honor'd with your letter of the 27th Ultimo. I shall Strictly observe your directions regarding the Monthly Returns.

I have Intelligence that a Party of French who were posted at Portonovo, consisting of an Officer, 30 Europeans, 10 Topasses, & 50 Seapoys are marched to Chellumbrum. They have also sent a Captain there; It was formerly a Subalterns Command.

I am with Respect Honble Sir, & Sirs

Your most Obedt. humble
Servant

James Bourchier.

Devecotah
3d Decemr. 1756.

Other Papers of Intelligence receiv'd from Fort St. David confirm what Mr Bourchier mentions of the Reinforcements sent by the French to Chellumbrum and further advice of the Motions of two or three small Parties from Pondicherry to Villenour and from thence to Chingee close to which Place they have form'd a Small Camp.

Letter from Captain Polier read containing the names of four or five Villages Situated between Changleput and Outremalour which he Judges to be the most convenient Posts for Seapoys to guard the Frontiers of our Possessions and reinforce on Occasion the Forts of Carangoly and Changleput.—As Ensign Bannatyne march'd four or five days ago with two Companies of Seapoys for Carangoly as well to guard the Fort and Frontiers, as to collect what he may be able from the Contested Districts, it is Agreed only to write Captain Polier to assist him to the utmost of his Power in case of Necessity.

George Pigot.
Henry Powney.
Robert Orme.
Robt Palk.

Sent the following Letter to Messrs Lawrence & Wynch.

To Stringer Lawrence
& Alexander Wynch Esqrs.

Gentlemen

We have receiv'd your Letters dated the 3d and 4th Instant, the first inclosing a Letter, the second a Protest from the Dutch Chief.

Agreable to what is mention'd in Mr. Wynch's Letter to the President, we shall send a hundred Seapoys overland without Arms.

Rangapuntaloo may be secured in such manner as you shall judge necessary.

We are Gentln
Your most Obedient Servants
George Pigot &ca Committee.

Fort St. George
10th Decemr. 1756.

Sent the following Letters to Admiral Watson, the Select Committee at Bengal, and Colonel Clive pursuant to the Resolutions of last Committee. [11TH.]

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[11th] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, DECEMR 1756.*——

To CHARLES WATSON Esqr
VICE ADMIRAL OF THE BLUE & COMMANDER IN CHIEF
OF HIS MAJESTY'S SQUADRON IN INDIA.

Sir

Inclos'd is Duplicate of the Letter we had the honor to write you the 2d Instant. By the Intelligence we have since receiv'd from Golconda we learn that the whole of the French Force except 100 men march'd with Mr. Bussy and Mr. Law the 16th November and on the 19th were advanced about twenty miles from Hyderabad towards the Sea Coast; By this account we compute the Number of Men with them must be about one thousand.

We are Sir
Your most Obedient humble
Servants
GEORGE PIGOT &CA. COMMITTEE.

Fort St. George
11th Decemr. 1756.

To THE HONBLE ROGER DRAKE Esqr.
& THE REST OF THE GENTLEMEN OF THE COMMITTEE AT BENGAL.

Gentlemen

The Letter from Mr. Drake and the Council of Bengal directed to the President and Council of Madras dated the 13th October reached us the 6th Instant. It is with concern we observe the Difficulties you were still expos'd to. We hope the arrival of the Kings fisher Sloop Shortly after proved some Comfort to you, and that Admiral Watson had a quick Passage with the rest of the Squadron and the Company's Ships.

Inclos'd is Duplicate of our Letter of the 2d Instant. We hear since that Mr. Bussy & Mr. Law march'd the 16th Novemr with their whole force except one hundred men left with Salabat Jung. We therefore judge the party in motion to be about one thousand men, and they were advanc'd twenty Miles from Hyderabad towards the Sea Coast on the 19th Novemr. It is needless for us to enforce what we had the honor to write you on this Subject.

We are Gentlemen
Your most Obedt. humble Servants
GEORGE PIGOT &CA. COMMITTEE.

Fort St. George
11th Decemr. 1756.

To ROBERT CLIVE Esqr.

Sir

Since the Dispatch of our Letter of the 2d Instant, of which herewith is a Duplicate, we have receiv'd further Advice that Mr. Bussy and Mr. Law march'd with the whole Body of French except one hundred men left with Salabat Jung.

They march'd from Hyderabad the 16th November and on the 19th were advanced about twenty Miles towards the Sea Coast. We compute their Number to be about one Thousand.

We are Sir
Your most Obedt. humble Servants
GEORGE PIGOT &CA. COMMITTEE.

Fort St. George
11th Decemr 1756.

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—— *FORT ST. GEORGE, DECEMR 1756.*——

AT A COMMITTEE

MONDAY THE 13TH.

Present

GEORGE PIGOT ESQR. GOVERNOR PRESIDENT
HENRY POWNEY ROBERT ORME
... ROBERT PALK
MR. PERCEVAL *indispos'd.*

The President acquaints the Committee that a Vakeel arriving from the Killedar of Chetteput with two Letters relating to the Destination of the Troops he has lately levied, He (the President) thought proper to detain the Letter wrote him in Consequence of the Resolutions of last Committee, untill the Contents of the Letters receiv'd from him cou'd be considered.

The Letters from the Killedar of Chetteput being accordingly read, as Enter'd No. 354 & 355 in the Country Correspondence, contain assurances of his firm alliance to the Company and of his Readiness to employ all his Troops in whatever Service we may recommend, that for the Present his Design is to take Possession of the Fort of Polour, the Killedary or Command of which is granted to his Uncle by the Great Mogul, and lastly he desires an Assistance of 50 men and Sundry Military Stores as ℔ List annexed to this Letter.

Although it appears by the purport of the foregoing Letters that the Killedar of Chetteput is not, as we apprehended under any Engagements with the French yet we think it wou'd be better to prevent if possible his proceeding as yet on any Enterprize, because the motion of his Troops wou'd probably give immediate Occasion to the Opening the War which we had rather Shou'd be defer'd untill our Forces return from Bengal as well on account of the Smallness of our present Numbers, as in order that the Expence may not so soon be enter'd upon. Agreed therefore to recommend to the Killedar of Chetteput not to send his Troops abroad untill ours are ready to Join him, that our Men will arrive from Bengal very Shortly and then we Shall take the Field with collected Force, in the mean time, that he had better keep his Troops in his own Districts for their Security against the designs of the Enemy, otherwise he may be in danger of a Sudden Attack from the French Troops which are assembled near Chingee.

The Papers of Intelligence transmitted from Fort St David mention that the Number of Men at Pondichery on the 7th Instant was Six hundred & eighty Europeans and Topasses, and the Number at Chellumbrum on the 9th Instant, fifty Soldiers and three hundred Seapoys, That on the 9th Instant one hundred Soldiers were sent from Pondichery to Villenour and two hundred to Syringam.

Letter from Captain Caillaud read as follows.

TO THE HOÑBLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQR.
PRESIDENT & GOVERNOR &CA. GENTLEMEN
OF THE COMMITTEE AT MADRAS.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

(No. 43.)

You will permit me to lay before you what I have done in Consequence of your orders, towards bringing the Affairs of Madura to a Conclusion. As to what I intended having the honor of Offering to your Consideration at Madras, I must beg your Honor &cm Patience, untill I can have more time, and leisure from my now other necessary attentions to put them in a proper form, fit to be presented. Perhaps it will not either be necessary ; If on the measures which are now perused [*sic*], affairs take the turn we wish.

To make a last effort with Mahofoz Cawn, and to know for certain what we can trust to from him. I have sent Lieutenant Rumbold to him. A Copy of whose Instructions, I have the honor to lay before you the clearest, & best I cou'd make out,

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[13TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, DECEMBER 1756.*——

and in which I hope you will think I have risqued nothing, but have given an Opportunity of finding out Mahofoz Cawns Intentions. As to the Gentl[n]. I have employ'd, I am sure he has Capacity, & talents besides his knowledge in the Country Language, must be of great Service, and I dare flatter myself the manner in which he will behave, in the course of the Affair will meet with your Approbation. He will there find also to assist him the Dubash Narrain whom on my setting out for Madras I had sent there, Copy of whose Instructions I now also inclose. I sent him on purpose as a trusty Person, whom I cou'd confide in; that I was certain wou'd assist him to bring the Affair to a Conclusion, if Mahofoz Cawn was, what he pretended to be. For I cannot help thinking I was little assisted before in my designs, but the troubles under hand kept up by those people, who shou'd have helped most to Settle them, when they had repeated advices so to do, as I persisted in acquainting them it was your Intentions & Desires.

Not to be a Dupe to Mahofoz Cawns Promises, I had given orders to Usoff Cawn if he found that Mahofoz Cawns Troops (instead of returning as promised and after time was given them for so doing) Were join'd with Polligars, & committing hostilities in the Tinnavelly Country, I had given him orders to march, join'd with Moodille and his Troops to defend the Country. The Night before my departure for Madras he acquainted me that he was oblig'd to march for that Purpose, For that Mahofoz Cawn's Troops with Katabominaigue, and the Trevencore people on their side, were advancing, and putting up the Tornams in all the Villages. I answer'd his Letter, and told him I approv'd of his march, and desir'd he wou'd proceed against all those he found in the Tinnevelly Country in arms against the Honble Company as Enemys. On my return here three or four Letters from Moodille confirm'd the above accounts, but indeed in such a Stile, as plainly shew'd they were much more affraid than hurt; However Usoff Cawns march on the one side, M[r]. Rumbold & Narrain on the other at Madura, will I hope help much to conclude the affair; For it is possible that Mahofoz Cawn might send orders to his Troops, and that they wou'd not immediately return, untill they were satisfied, that there was some money ready for them on their arrival, When therefore they hear People are come there for that purpose, and press'd on the other side with the apprehension of meeting with Usoff Cawn, and his Army, I have great hopes they will return, and once they do so with Madura in our Possession, & Mahofoz Cawn here the Polligars will certainly be quiet.

I was oblig'd to supply Usoff Cawn with Money for his Expences. The method I took was to make Buckangee advance the money for which I have given him bills on Tetrapah Moodille. I have some doubts whether he will answer them; If not, I have promis'd to give a Draft to Buckunjee on Madras for the sum, which is one Lack & 20,000 Rupees.

If the Madura affair is Settled, there will also be two Lack wanting for that, and if I have some reason, to doubt that Moodille will not answer the other bill I can have little hopes he will, what still more may be wanted; It gives me great uneasiness indeed (tho' I have your orders to draw on you for that sum) that it cannot I fear be managed otherwise; however you will see M[r]. Rumbold has directions to try for it.

I must beg leave to know that if after all our endeavors, Mahofoz Cawn is found really to be only amusing of us, and intending to keep up the troubles in that Country; How far the order for Usoff Cawns return remains in force.

My Garrison with that of Syringam as to Europeans is nearly on an equality, as to Seapoys I out number them: But if I may credit my Intelligence they have contracted for 500 more of the latter at Toriour, as also the same number, and a reinforcement of Europeans required from Pondichery. If this be true, tho' the Security of the Fort is not in the least endanger'd by a Superiority, yet the Country round, a Scarcity of wood, & Provisions may be the Consequence of it.

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——*FORT S^T GEORGE, DECEM^R 1756.*—— [13th]

The Tanjore Troops are ready to march against Tondiman; But as you were pleas'd to direct I have not taken any notice of it. My Vakeel wrote me the other day at Monagee's desire, and have only answer'd the Letter in general terms.

I beg you will be pleas'd to excuse for a few days my Returns and accounts, as I have been so much employed of late that I cou'd not spare time to make them out.

I remain with great Respect
Honble Sir, & Sirs
Your most Obedient & most
faithful Servant
JOHN CAILLAUD.

Trichenopoly
2^d Decem^r 1756.

The Committee approves of Capt Caillaud's Deputing Mr Rumbold with Instructions of putting an End to the Troubles in Madura and Tinnevelly which will be attended at least with the Advantage of procuring us a Knowledge of Mahofoz Cawn's real Intentions; Untill we are acquainted with the Success of this Step we can give no further Directions on the Subject.

Usoff Cawn during the Course of his Command in the Tinnevelly Country, having rendered himself disagreable, not only to Mahofoz Cawn but also to Moodille and to all the Polligars, the Committee are of Opinion that the Differences which are on foot cannot be so easily reconcil'd by his management as they might be by another Commander, and further as Usoff Cawn's Military Capacity will be of great Service here when the Troops take the Field it is Resolved to recal him to Madras with his own Company of Seapoys, and that the rest of the Seapoys in the Madura and Tinnevelly Countries be left under the Command of Lieutenant Rumbold if Captain Caillaud judges him capable of managing that Trust. Agreed therefore that those Orders to Usoff Cawn be transmitted under cover to Captain Caillaud for him to forward, if he thinks proper with the necessary Instructions to Mr Rumbold

Letter from Ensign Bannatyne at Carangoly read advising of the Plan he has laid for collecting as much as possible of the Revenues of the Contested Districts which is approved.

Letter from Captain Polier Commanding at Changleput read, representing that a small addition to the present Number of his Seapoys is necessary for the Service of that Garrison.

The Number of Seapoys now remaining here being about two thousand, of which one thousand are furnish'd with good Arms. Agreed that

2 Companies be sent to Changleput
2 To Arcot
2 To Conjeveram
& 2 To Carangoly.

8 Companys will amount to about one thousand Seapoys who being thus posted will guard the Frontiers of our Possessions and may also on occasion be recalled to Madras at a very Short Warning.

Letters from the Terpetty Renter and Tasealdar read, as enter'd in the Country Correspondence N° 356 & 357 accompanying a Bill on Gocul Terevaddy for five thousand (5000) Pagodas due to 6th January next and Said to be in full Payment of the first or September Kist of the present year of Phasely 1166.

Ordered that Report be made to the President & Council of the Receipt of the said Bill, that they may give Directions concerning it.

Ordered also that the account Current of the said Kist be laid before the Committee to be examin'd.

GEORGE PIGOT.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
ROB^T PALK.

D. & P. 1756—100

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[13TH.] —— *FORT ST. GEORGE, DECEMR 1756.* ——

Sent the following Letter to Captain Caillaud pursuant to the Resolutions of the foregoing Committee.

To CAPTAIN JOHN CAILLAUD,

(No. 43). Sir

We have before us your Letter dated the 2d Instant. We approve entirely of your sending Mr. Rumbold with your Instructions for putting an End to the Troubles in Madura and Tinnevelly. If all his Endeavors for that purpose shou'd fail his Journey will at least have this good Effect that we Shall arrive at a Knowledge of Mahofoz Cawn's real Intentions and be able to form a final Resolution upon the Measures most proper to be taken. Untill we are acquainted with the Result of Mr. Rumbold's Enquiries and Endeavors we can give you no fresh Directions on this Subject. We send you a Letter to Moodille pressing him to furnish all the money that may be wanted, which we hope will have a good Effect as it wou'd concern us much to be oblig'd to advance from the Company's Treasury.

As Usoff Cawn seems to be disagreable to the Renter as well as to the Polygars and Mahofoz Cawn we think it wou'd be better he was come away and Lieut. Rumbold to take the whole Command if you who are best acquainted with his Talents think him fit for it.

We inclose therefore for Usoff Cawn directing him to march to Madras with his own Company leaving the Command to Mr. Rumbold; If you judge Mr. Rumbold capable of managing all the Affairs which will then depend on him, Subject however always to your Directions, you will forward the Letter to Usoff Cawn with proper Instructions to Mr. Rumbold; to whom you will take care to transmit at the same time a Copy of the Book of Military Regulations for his Guidance in the Pay and Batta Lists. Send also a Translation of those Regulations to Moodille advising him to observe it in the Payment of the Seapoys that remain with him.

We hear from Pondichery that a Party of two hundred men march'd from thence for Syringam the 9th. Instant.

We are Sir

Fort St George — Your most Obedient Servants

14th Decemr 1756. — GEORGE PIGOT &CA. COMMITTEE.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

THURSDAY THE 16TH DECEMR. — GEORGE PIGOT ESQR. GOVERNOR PRESIDENT
HENRY POWNEY — ROBERT ORME
... — ROBERT PALK
MR. PERCEVAL *indispos'd.*

The following Letter from Captain Caillaud read with Copies of two Letters wrote him by Mr. Rumbold from Madura and his Answer.

To THE HONBLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQR.
PRESIDENT & GOVERNOR &CA GENTLEMEN
OF THE COMMITTEE AT MADRAS.

(No. 44). Honble Sir & Sirs

Since my last of the 2d Instant No. 43 I have been honor'd with two Letters No. 45 & 46 of the same dates both the 27th November.

In that last letter of mine I had the honor to lay before you all that had been done, in regard to the affairs of Madura, Since which time I have receiv'd two Letters from Mr. Rumbold that I now transmit, and my answer.

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——*FORT St. GEORGE, DECEMR. 1756.*—— [16TH.]

I receiv'd a Letter last night from Usoff Cawn who informs me he had an encounter with the Enemy; a Slight Affair, but on which they had retir'd. I dare say he will make use of the advantage, and keep close to them, until he drives them out of the Country. I have answered his Letter & most earnestly recommended it to him finishing of the business, and to proceed with all expedition on his return. I have also wrote to the Moodille, desiring him to inform me, if with the Troops which he will require to be left by Usoff Cawn, he can now pretend to manage the Country himself, for I am pretty well convinc'd, that if it is left to the others discretion to come away, when the troubles are at an end, they may not be finish'd for these many months, the Country is so happily dispos'd for a Person's turn, who has rather the art of making disturbances than quieting of them. Believe me, Gentlemen, I do not Speak this out of disrespect against the man whom you have thought proper to employ, I am convinced he is a faithful and good Servant, but I am also convinc'd that his only Talent lies in the military way, and that he is fond of Opportunitys to show it, and rather than to avoid them, seeks them, & in short he will do best when not too much left to himself.

I must beg you will be pleased to consider of this Affair of Madura and Tinnevelly in the worst turn it can take, and supposing it in that Situation, honor me with final directions, for if Troops are oblig'd to come away our keeping the Country is very doubtful; and it seems necessary in this Circumstance of time, that they shou'd at least by the Judgments I can form, from your directions on that head.

I shall observe the method you have recommended as to the monthly returns, something of the kind must also be done as to the Batta accounts, & military Payments; As from them also the strength of the Garrison may be known; I will think of a safe method & form to convey them in, & send it for your Approbation.

I beg you'll be assured that the expence of Batta in this Garrison, has ever been an Object of my Serious Attention, But I ever thought it improper attempting any further reduction, when the Troops at Syringam were kept up at the same price (I mean as to Seapoys) I presume that you will be of the same opinion with me now, and wou'd think it an improper time to do it, when as I inform'd you in my last letter that they were raising Seapoys there, and still continue to do so; a reduction now I am affraid wou'd occasion great desertion from hence, and also can assure you that the new rais'd Seapoys are taken in at 9 Rs. instead of 8 Rups. ℔r mo.

As to a Reduction amongst the Military, I might offer the same reason, that the Troops have it at Syringham; and if I remember right it is more for the men; considerably so for the Officers I am sure. But it is proper to lay before you the prices of all kind of necessarys here, which if you are pleas'd to have compar'd with what is paid for those Articles in other Garrisons you will be enabled to Judge what is fittest to be done. I beg leave to inform you also that as to the Officers, in that one article of Madeira, when brought up, and all expences paid, the price is just double of what it costs out of the Honble Companys Cellars, Arrack, & other Liquors in Proportion.

I remain with great Respect

Honble Sir & Sirs

Your most Obedient and most

faithful Servant

JOHN CAILLAUD.

Trichenopoly

8th Decemr 1756.

P.S.

I omitted to inform you that neither have I heard one word from the Nabob, or of his Intentions for his Brothers, this I am pretty certain of that we may thank him for all the trouble this Affair has given us.

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[16th]

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, DECEMR. 1756.*——

It appearing by Mr. Rumbold's Letters that Barkatoola is the chief Obstacle to the Success of his Negociation it is Agreed to endeavor to bring him over to our Measures by assuring him by a Letter from the President that a Suitable Provision Shall be made for him if he will use his Interest to put an end to the Disturbance and return with Mahofoz Cawn to Madura.

And as the Nabob has not sent any answer to the Letters already wrote him recommending to him to resolve upon the best means of Satisfying Mahofoz Cawn, it is now Agreed to represent to him in the most Strenuous Manner the necessity of his appointing without further Loss of time, a Suitable Provision both for Mahofoz Cawn and Barkatoola, and to desire that he will acquaint each of them by a Letter under his Seal of the Appointment he has so made transmitting the Letters to Captain Caillaud for him to forward to Madura.

These Measures we may flatter ourselves will enable Mr. Rumbold to finish the propos'd accommodation unless that Mahofoz Cawn & Barkatoola are in the Determin'd Resolution to hold the Fort of Madura and reduce the Districts to their own Obedience establishing to themselves an Independant Government. If this shou'd appear to be their design the Steps to be taken must depend on the Efforts which our present Force there may be able to make, as it is impossible for us at this time to send away further Supplies. It is accordingly Agreed to give Directions to Captain Caillaud in case he judges the Troops now in Madura and Tinnevelly, with what assistance he may be able to send from Trichenopoly Sufficient to reduce the Fort of Madura then he is to make use of that Force to oppose the Designs of Mahofoz Cawn & Barkatoola, otherwise, in order that the Company's Expence may immeditely be put an end to, when no further advantage is to be expected, let Moodille Secure Possession of as large a part of the Country as he can, and take into his Pay for that purpose as many of the Seapoys as he pleases, Usoff Cawn with the rest to come away to Trichenopoly.

Letters from Messrs. Lawrence & Wynch read as follow.

To the Honble George Pigot Esqr.
& the Gentlemen of the Select Committee at Madras.

Gentlemen,

We have receiv'd your Letters of the 7th Inst. The Dutch Factory will in a few days we hope be entirely levelled. The Chief yesterday sent us a message that he had receiv'd orders from his Superiors at Negapatam, to remain in the House we shou'd give him; That he wanted a Flag Staff to be erected for him at Cuddalore, as also many alterations & Conveniences to be made to the House, we desir'd he wou'd let us know in writing all he requir'd, and have directed the Ingineer to make a Calculate of the Expence. The Rent of the House is 12 Pagodas a month. If the Repairs & Alterations comes to any Considerable Sum we Submit it to you whether it will be more for the Company's Advantage to purchase it which may be done for about 800 Pagodas.

We Shall recommend the utmost Care in keeping the Provisions, and order a monthly Return to be laid before us of the State of them.

The works of this Place are in great forwardness, the Pallasades to the West are just closed, and the Parapet of the Saluting Battery wou'd have been finish'd if the Rains had not prevented, but as we have now fair weather, it will soon be done, which we apprehend will put us out of danger even Shou'd the Force the Enemy talk of, arrive. As Mr. Call has always shown the greatest Zeal for promoting the publick Service, & has been indefatigable in his Employ we hope you will think his extraordinary Diligence merits a further Encouragement.

We are with Respect

Gentlemen,

Fort St. David
1 th Decemr. 1756.

Your faithful & very Obedt. Servants
Stringer Lawrence & Alexr. Wynch.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, DECEMR 1756.*—— [16TH.]

To the Hoñble George Pigot Esq^R.
& the Gentlemen of the Committee at Madras.

Gentlemen,

We now forward you a Packet from Trichenopoly.

M^r. Call has been to Survey the House that we took for M^r. Trembley the Dutch Resident, and finds the Repairs and Alterations he requires will not cost less than 300 Pag^ds. We shall wait your orders before they are begun upon. We are inform'd M^r. Clive offered 750 Pagodas for the House.

Answers have been receiv'd in friendly Terms from the Killedars of Wolconda & Ellavanasore to the Letters Colonel Lawrence wrote them, the latter has wrote for some Flints, and Gun powder, which we do not think proper to send him, so have put him off 'till the Arrival of our Ships, but as he intimates he has something to Communicate by a trusty Servant, he is desir'd to send him here, when we shall acquaint you what it is.

As soon as any Vessels with Wheat arrive we must request you will purchase some for the use of this Garrison, and send hither with some Madeira Wine, & the Stores mention'd in the Indent that was sent from hence.

We are with Respect Gentl^n.

Your most Obed^t. humble Servants
Sibinger Lawrence & Alex^R. Wynch.

Fort S^t. David
13th Decem^r. 1756.

P.S.

The Pondichery Advice Paper now waits on You.

Ordered that the House in Cuddalore appointed for the Dutch Resident be rented and repaired taking care that the Repairs do not exceed the Calculate.

The following Letter from the Govr. and Council of Negapatam Read, in answer to that which we wrote them the 29th Novem^r. concerning the pulling down the Dutch House at Tevenepatam.

To the Hoñble George Pigot Esq^R.
President & Gov^R. &^c. Council of Fort S^t. George
on the Coast of Choromandel &^c. &^c. for the Right Hoñble
English East India Company.

Hoñble Sir, & Sirs

We understand by your esteem'd Letter of the 29th November last the orders you sent to Tevenepatam for the breaking down our Lodge or Factory there, which being an affair that concerns the Hoñble Dutch East India Company you will please to know that it is not in our power to Cede that Factory and it's Jurisdiction, but that such a Step entirely depends on the High and Noble Governor of India at Batavia, and that therefore we are oblig'd in the name of the said East India Company, and of the said Governor, by these Presents to Protest against such your Proceeding, because we do not chuse to be answerable for any bad Consequences which may ensue therefrom, but leave it to your Honor &^ca. to be responsible for them and for the promise you have made, that when a Peace is obtain'd, you will build another Lodge or Factory for the said Company. We are oblig'd to acquaint the High & most Noble Governor of India with what has passed in this Respect, and to notify to your Honor &^ca the answer we may receive. But your Honor &^ca might have imparted to us your Intentions, before you gave orders to break down the said Factory. As to

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[16th] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, DECEMR 1756.*——

the rest, we beg your Honor &ca will be persuaded that we wish nor esteem any thing so much as to continue in perfect Amity, and that in the Interim We are with Respect

Negapatam Castle
7th December 1756.

Hoble Sir, & Sirs
Your most Obedt. hble Servants

STEPHEN VERMONT &ca. COUNCIL,

The President acquaints the Comittee that two of the Company's Seapoys who went to Bommerauze's Districts upon the Promise of his Vackeel that his Debt to the Company shou'd be paid, return'd lately with an accot. that Bommerauze evades paying any money pretending that he has wrote to Madras and expects an answer. His Vakeel being also question'd upon the Nonperformance of the Agreement he made in his Masters name, says that his Master disowns the Agreement and has turn'd him out of his Service.

The President is hereupon desir'd to write another Letter to Bommerauze threatning him with bad Consequences if he evades any longer to pay his Debt to the Company; and if all these Representations Shou'd be ineffectual, it is Resolved to take the first Opportunity of Supporting our Demand by Force.

Letter from Balazarow read as enter'd No. 363 in the Country Correspondence, in answer to that which we wrote him expressing our Readiness to Join him on his arrival in these Parts. He speaks only in General Terms of the Benefits which will mutually be obtain'd by our Alliance.

The Terpetty account Current of the first or September Kist of the present year of Phasely 1166 is now laid before the Board pursuant to the Orders of last Committee, examin'd, and pass'd; Ballance due from the Renter two hundred & forty two & a half Rupees (Rs. 242½) and one hundred & fifty Pagodas (150 P.) for which his Vakeel now delivers a Bill on Gocul Terwady payable the 3d January.

Ordered that Report be made to the President & Council of the Receipt of the said Bill that they may give Directions concerning it; And that the Acct. Current be enterd hereafter.

GEORGE PIGOT.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
ROBT PALK.

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Dr. The Terpetty Renter for Account of the first or September Kist of the Year of Phasely 1166. Cr.

	Rups	Pagds	Fans	Cash		Rups	Pagds	fans	Cash
To Rents due on Account of the said Kist.	17,500				Octr 21st By Bills receiv'd ...	17,000	12,000	,,	,,
					Novr 26 By do do ...	,,	13,000	,,	,,
Saudetulla Cawn Pagd 30,000					Decr 13 By do do ...		5,000	,,	,,
Premium 2 p Cent 600					By Premium paid for the Bills 2p Ct			,,	,,
		30,600	,,	,,					
To Sorters Fees ½ p Cent ...									
On Rupees 17,500 ...	87½				On Rupees 17,000	340		,,	,,
On Pagodas 30,600 ...	,,	153	,,	,,	On Pagodas 30,000	,,	600	,,	,,
						17,340	30,600	,,	,,
					Decr 16th By Bill receiv'd this day for the Ballce.				
					Rupees 242⅓				
					Premium 2 p Ct 5	247½			
					Pagodas 150				
					Premium 2 p Ct 3		153	,,	,,
Rupees ..	17,587½	Ps 30,753	,,	,,	Rupees ...	17,587⅓	Ps 30,753	,,	,,

[16TH]

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[16TH.] ———*FORT ST. GEORGE, DECEMR. 1756.*———

Sent the following Letters to Messrs. Wynch and Lawrence & Captain Caillaud pursuant to the Foregoing Resolutions.

To STRINGER LAWRENCE & ALEXANDER WYNCH ESQRS.

Gentlemen

We have receiv'd your Letters dated the 12th & 13th.

Let the House for the Dutch Resident be rented and repair'd, but the repairs must be done by Contract or some other means us'd to take care that they do not exceed the Calculate of 300 Pagodas.

Ensign Donavan has leave to resign his Commission according to his Request in his Letter to the President.

Acquaint us what Quantity of Madeira Wine you want and it Shall be sent by the first Conveyance; Also some Wheat if procurable here.

We are Gentln.
Your most Obedt. hble Servants

GEORGE PIGOT &CA COMMITTEE.

Fort St. George
16th Decemr. 1756.

(No. 49) To CAPTAIN JOHN CAILLAUD.

Sir,

We wrote to you the 14th and have since receiv'd your Letter of the 8th with the Copies of Mr. Rumbold's Advices from Madura and your Answer.

Barkatoola seems to be the greatest of the Difficulties we have to struggle with and as he has so much weight in Madura none but fair means can be attempted with him. The President has therefore wrote him a Letter promising that a Suitable Provision Shall be made for him if he will use his Endeavors to Settle the Disturbance, and return to Trichenopoly. We have also wrote again to Mahofoz Cawn assuring him of our Protection and that it shall be our Care to See him well provided for.

We inclose you these Letters to forward with Copies for your Information; We have wrote the Nabob in the most pressing Manner to confirm these Promises by Letters from himself to Mahofoz Cawn and Barkatoola and to send his Letters to you that you may transmit them to Madura. We hope that these Helps to Mr. Rumbold's endeavors will enable him to compleat the Accommodation propos'd.

But if all our Attempts to his End shou'd prove Fruitless and it appear that Mahofoz Cawn and Barkatoola are united in the Resolution of keeping Possession of the Fort and Subduing the Countries to their own Government in open Defiance to the Nabob and us; In this case you are to consider whether the Force at present there with such help as you can send, consistently with the Safety of Trichenopoly, will be able to take the Fort of Madura, and so carry our point by Force; If you Judge them Sufficient, let it be attempted; If not, the Company's Expence must immediately be put an end by acquainting Moodillee that he may keep Possession of as large a part of the Country as he can, and take into his Service for that purpose what number of the Seapoys he can engage to pay who may accordingly have leave to Stay with him. The Subidars, Jemidars &ca. Officers and Seapoys being first made acquainted that they are from that time to look upon Moodille as their only Paymaster, and that the Company is no wise answerable for their Pay while they are in his Service, but whenever he sees Occasion to discharge them, as many as can produce his Certificate of their good Behavior shall be receiv'd into the Company's

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, DECEMR. 1756.*—— [16TH]

Service again. And Such as do not chuse to stay with Moodille, or he does not chuse to take, are to march forthwith for Trichenopoly. Usoff Cawn in all cases to come here as before directed.

We observe what you say on the Subject of the Reduction of Batta. We mean to recommend it to you as an object of your constant Attention and as a Step to be taken for the Company's Benefit whenever it reasonably can.

We are Sir

Your most Obedt. Servants

GEORGE PIGOT &CA COMMITTEE.

Fort St George
16th Decemr 1756.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

GEORGE PIGOT ESQR. GOVERNOR PRESIDENT.
HENRY POWNEY ROBERT ORME
. . . ROBERT PALK
MR. PERCEVAL *indispos'd.*

TUESDAY 21ST DECR.

Letter from Captain Preston commanding at Arcot read advising that the Fort of Polour is So closely surrounded by the Troops of the Killedar of Chetteput that it is not possible to throw in the Six men we directed or any Succour without marching out a Sufficient Force to oppose the whole of the Chetteput Army —Letter from the Nabob on the same Subject as entered No. 369 in the Country Correspondence representing the Necessity of the Army's taking the Field to put a Stop to the Enterprizes of the Killedar of Chetteput.

According to the Information that has been given us of the Situation of the Fort of Polour there Seems but little Danger of it's being taken by the Chetteput Forces without the Assistance of Guns or Europeans. Supposing however that through the ill Behavior of the People within, it shou'd fall, it is to be considered whether the Inconveniences of such an Accident or those of marching out the Army to prevent it are greater. The Killedar of Polour it is true acknowledges the Nabob, but the Tributes he pays are very inconsiderable (from ten to twenty thousand Rupees a Year) and the Company get no Share of it, If it falls into the Hands of the Killedar of Chetteput he will set up an independent Right to that Fort as he now does to Chetteput, and will pay no Tribute at all, but here the Inconvenience ends as we do not believe he wou'd make use of his Power or Possessions in favor of the French, or to our Prejudice. On the other hand to march out such a Party as cou'd Securely be sent against the Killedar of Chetteput to prevent his Enterprizes and wou'd give immediate Beginning to a vast Expence, which cou'd not afterwards be stopp'd, as the French upon the first News of our Troops taking the Field wou'd undoubtedly send out theirs to join the Killedar of Chetteput. This wou'd oblige us to detach more men which the present Strength of our Garrison wou'd very ill admit of, and after all the Success of our Designs wou'd be doubtful as the Chetteput Army join'd with a Body of French wou'd form a Considerable Strength; and the Consequence of making the Killedar of Chetteput our Declared Enemy wou'd be the frequent Incursions of his Troops to plunder the Frontiers of the Changleput and Carangoly Districts which extend near to Chittapet. The Reasons on both sides having been duly weighed, it is Resolved to let the Affair take it's Course not interfering on one Side, or the other unless the French shou'd join either Party.

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[21st.] ——— *FORT ST. GEORGE, DECEMR. 1756.* ———

Letter from Messrs. Lawrence & Wynch Read as follows.

To the Honble George Pigot Esqr.
and the Gentlemen of the Select Committee at Madras.

Gentlemen

Last night one of the Hussars came in here from Pondichery, who reports that there is 150 Germans, & 600 French there, & that the first of January they are to take the Field. We shall be upon our Guard to watch their motions.

Lately we open'd two Casks of the Provisions that were left here by the Admiral and find that both the Beef and Pork is in Pretty good Condition, but do not imagine it will keep much longer so, it having been upwards of two Years in this Country; this we mention in case it might have been your Intention to take it for the Company; and we Submit to you whether it wou'd not be proper to take the Opportunity of the Cool Season to salt up some for a Garrison Stock.

Several of the French Prisoners had leave on the Sollicitation of the Gentlemen at Pondichery to go there, whom we are of Opinion ought now to be demanded; we therefore desire Your directions regarding them.

We are most Respectfully
Gentln Your most Obedient
humble Servants

Fort St David
18th Decemr. 1756

Stringer Lawrence & Alexr. Wynch.

The Committee cannot but express their Surprise & Concern, that Mr. Starke, without consulting his Superiors shou'd permit French Prisoners to go under any Pretence to Pondichery. The Receipts which he deliver'd the President Sign'd by those Gentlemen of Pondichery at whose Intercession the Prisoners had leave to go, being compar'd with the List of those that are absent, only four out of the ten appear to be mention'd in the said Receipts, It is however Agreed to direct Messrs. Lawrence & Wynch to demand the Restitution of all the Ten.

Letter from the Nabob as enter'd No. 373 in the Country Correspondence Read, representing in answer to what we wrote him concerning the Terms demanded by Mahofoz Cawn, that by his late Behavior he has forfeited all Title to favor, or Brotherly Affection, and therefore he is of Opinion the Disturbance at Madura & Tinnevelly cannot be settled by any other Means, but the Extirpation of it's Promoters.

Letters from Usoff Cawn and Tetrapah Moodille No. 370, 371, & 375 advise that the Troops of Mahofoz Cawn join'd with those of the Polligar Katabominaick, having enter'd Tinnevelly in the night thrô byways took possession of it, whereupon Usoff Cawn march'd with the Company's Seapoys from their Encampment near Madura, and having met Mahofoz Cawn's Troops defeated them and retook Tinnevelly where Usoff Cawn and Moodille both remain'd by the last Advices. Agreed to wait the result of the Directions, we have already given this Subject, and of Mr. Rumbold's Negociations.

Letter from Ensign Bannatyne at Carangoly desiring a small supply of military Stores according to an Indent inclos'd, advising that the Amuldar gives him good hopes of the Success of their Endeavors to collect the Revenue of the Contested Districts, and that he expects in a very few days to receive one thousand Pagodas in part.

Ordered that the Stores indented for by Mr. Bannatyne be sent.

Letter from the King of Tanjour as enter'd No. 372 in the Country Correspondence, advising that he has an Army of five thousand Horse and as many Seapoys, and is enlisting more, that he Shall first retake his Countries which Tondaman has in Possession and then be ready to act whenever we may recommend.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, DECEMR 1756.*—— [21ST.]

Ordered that a Friendly answer be wrote to the King of Tanjour.

GEORGE PIGOT.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
ROBT. PALK.

Sent the following Letter to Messrs. Wynch & Lawrence pursuant to the foregoing Resolutions.

To STRINGER LAWRENCE & ALEXR. WYNCH ESQRS

Gentlemen

We have receiv'd your Letter dated the 18th Instant, Inclos'd are three papers which Mr. Starke receiv'd from Pondichery as Acknowledgments for some French Prisoners whom he permitted to go to Pondichery at the Request of the Gentlemen who have sign'd the said Acknowledgments, but we there see the names of only four of the ten mention'd in your Adjutants List. You will however demand all those that are absent on Parôle.

When the Admiral arrives we shall request of him to replace the old Provisions with new, which will be better than Salting for the Company, as the Meat Salted in this Country soon decays.

We are Gentln.
Your most Obedt. Servants
GEORGE PIGOT &CA. COMMITTEE.

Fort St. George
21st Decemr. 1756.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

GEORGE PIGOT ESQR.	GOVERNOR PRESIDENT	THURSDAY THE 23D.
HENRY POWNEY	ROBERT ORME	
. . .	ROBERT PALK	

MR. PERCEVAL *indispos'd.*

No fresh Letters or Advices having been receiv'd since our last meeting, the Committee adjourns untill monday next.

GEORGE PIGOT.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
ROBT. PALK.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

GEORGE PIGOT ESQR.	GOVERNOR PRESIDENT	MONDAY THE 27TH.
HENRY POWNEY	ROBERT ORME	
WILLIAM PERCEVAL	ROBERT PALK.	

Letter from Captain Caillaud read as follows.

To THE HOÑBLE GEORGE PIGOT ESQR.
PRESIDENT AND GOVERNOR, &CA. GENTLEMEN OF THE COMMITTEE AT MADRAS.

Hoñble Sir & Sirs

(No. 45)

I had the honor of addressing you on the 8th Instant No. 44, and at the same time laying before you two letters, which I had receiv'd from Mr. Rumbold, giving

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[27th] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, DECEMR 1756.*——

you an account how he found affairs situated on his arrival at Madura. I am sorry to acquaint you that he has been obliged to return, after having tried all methods in vain, to bring Affairs to an Accomodation. Barkatoola, and his Party among the Jemidars, have carried it against us, and have forced Mahofoz Cawn that weak man (who has neither will nor power of his own) into all their measures.

I will now only take up your attention with a general Account of what passed in the Course of Mr. Rumbold's negotiation; Lay before you how affairs now Stand and acquaint you how I have acted in consequence. As to particulars, I will in a very few days transmit the whole of the Correspondence between Mr. Rumbold and myself; but what I now write, I hope will be sufficiently clear, and serve as some guide to your better Judgments, what resolution to take on this turn of Affairs.

It is necessary to acquaint you that Barkatoola return'd to the Fort immediately on Mr. Rumbold's Arrival, the day after those letters were wrote, which I had the honor of transmitting to you, that Gentle[man] had an Interview, and a long conversation with Mahofoz Cawn. In which he ommittted nothing to bring him to a Sense of his folly, and to persuade him to come heartily, and Sincerely, into the terms of Accommodation which were offered him. This discourse had the effect desired, and he left Mahofoz Cawn convinced of what was his true Interest, and resolved to pursue it. Tho' the Interview was in private between those two Persons (as they thought,) yet some one was conveniently posted who overheard them, for the following Accident was the immediate consequence of it.

One Seer Cawn a Jemidar, the most violent of Barkatoolah's party, against any accommodation; immediately after assembled his Cavalry, beset Mahofoz Cawn's house, and put him Prisoner, Sending a message to Mr. Rumbold to quit the Fort. Mr. Rumbold first refus'd alledging that he wou'd only receive, and take notice of such an order, but from Mahofoz Cawn, and the body of Jemidars, not from any one private Person among them; The answer to this was brought by twenty or thirty Peons, who fairly told him, If he did not go quietly, they wou'd force him. The Gentleman was oblig'd to yeild, and Join'd his escorte of Seapoys out of the Gate, and took post at a Choultry, strongly situated on the other side of the River; resolved to wait there the Issue of the affair. Sometime after Seer Cawn assembled the Jemidars, and told them, Mahofoz Cawn had sold them, and the Fort to the English; Barcatoolah made his appearance in Council and then it was resolved to leave him in the Fort; Force Mahofaz [*sic*] Cawn out, and oblige him at the head of them to march for the Tinnavelly Country and take Possession of it.

On receipt of this account from Mr. Rumbold, I wrote him word immediately to return, and break off all negotiation with them; However while he was waiting for my directions; Affairs took another turn, which encouraged him again to renew his efforts for an Accommodation.

Resolute as they were in Council for a march to Tinnavelly; yet when they came to consider of it cooly, the execution of it seemed attended with some difficulty & danger, besides that they were not at all Unanimous in the prosecution of such violent measures, and apprehensive also of meeting with Usoff Cawn, whom they knew was ready to receive them, and perhaps might serve them as he had the party before, this with partly a threatning letter from Mr. Rumbold had some effect. They return'd to the Fort, and sent Vackeels to desire that Gentleman also to return, for that they had new Offers to make.

Mr. Rumbold very properly after the affront he had received, refus'd coming in, unless Satisfaction was made to him, and the Hoñble Company, he insisted therefore that Mahofoz Cawn in Person with all his Jemidars, shou'd come to his Choultry, and there request of him again to come into the Fort; and that on his entrance he was to be Saluted; All this was accordingly agreed to, & performed; and again the Affair was brought on the Carpet.

I must inform you Gentlemen that the Pretence made use of by these People, for not keeping to their first Agreements, was, that the Provision for Mahofoz Cawn was not sufficiently secured by promises, or your Letter on that Subject, but that he

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——— *FORT ST. GEORGE, DECEMR 1756.* ——— [27TH].

must have for it the Honble Company's Chop, as also must Barkatoola for Protection. To return however to Mr. Rumbold, some Prelimenaries were settled between him, and one of the Jemidars of the Faction, the man who seemed to him of most sense, and best cou'd be induc'd to hear reason, As to Mahofoz Cawn it was a folly addressing of him, who was prisoner, and oblig'd to act Just as they pleased. The Divisions which reigned in their Councils (for still some were inclined to accommodate matters) gave Mr. Rumbold an Opportunity, by delaying Affairs to foment the broils; and at the same time he had sent Usoff Cawn directions to move again towards Madura; Hoping reasonably from that; that what with those, who are far more moderate measures, and the fears of others, on the approach again of an Army, he might perhaps get a party strong enough for Mahofoz Cawn, that wou'd overule Barkatoolah's.

In the mean time the Cavalry which Usoff Cawn had beaten, returned, and along with them, the Polygar Nabi Cawn Cotah on his arrival he immediately offered them twenty five thousand Chuckrams, for the present Subsistence of the Cavalry, if they wou'd break off all treaty with us, and send Mr. Rumbold away.

Mr. Rumbold heard of this proposal & went to Mahofoz Cawn, who as usual fell a crying, & broke his Chop that he might not be forced to use it against his will. Mr. Rumbold desired him once more to assemble the Jemidars and Barkatoolah to whom he addressed himself in the strongest terms he cou'd: with assurances that all he promised in the name of the Company, shou'd be faithfully kept on our side. That care shou'd be taken for Mahofoz Cawn's Maintenance, That Barkatoolah shou'd have Protection, and the Seapoys arrears discharged. After a great deal of Canvassing, the following Resolution was come to; That there shou'd be a cessation of Arms, untill an answer was receiv'd from Madras, about a Provision for the Nabobs Brother, & Barkatoolah Protection, in the manner they required it, if it was thought proper. Mr. Rumbold drew up the Articles for the cessation, which he Signed, and Sealed, and they on their Part were to Sign and Seal a Counterpart of it. Mr. Rumbold intending after this was done, to go to Tinnavelly, see how matters stood there, and endeavor to secure some Pollygars in our Interest, in case of the worst; he had taken the precaution to have a Passport given him from the People of Madura for his Security, and was also to have an Escorte of 20 horse.

Not Six hours after all this was agreed on, but it was all overturned. Nabi Cawn Cotah offering once more, if they wou'd come to no Agreement, to find one thousand Chuckrams a day for the Subsistence of the Cavalry. This did the business; A message was sent to Mr. Rumbold, to be on his guard, for all the roads were Stopped up, and that his Protection was of little Security. Mr. Rumbold very prudently did not attempt to go to Tinnevelly, for it was only on that road they feared his going most, & might have stop'd him, he therefore took the Opportunity of a moon Shine for setting out, arrived safe at Natom, and three days afterwards reach'd this Place. This, Gentlemen, is a general account of Mr. Rumbolds transactions to Madura.

The Situation of Affairs is then thus—they are resolved to come to no Accommodation by fair means; All the Cavalry are now assembled at Madura, Alliances are making with Mayanah, and the Natom Polygars; And the Vackeels of most of those in the Tinnavelly Country are with them, reproaching them that they do not march and leave their masters exposed to Usoff Cawn, and his Army, they therefore are pressing, and urging their return, in the Tinnavelly Country.

All that appear'd to me cou'd be done in this exigency, and what I ventur'd at (notwithstanding your pressing directions for Usoff Cawn his return) was to send him orders to stay in the Tinnavelly Country, and make the best disposition he coud with his Forces for its defence; Untill your further pleasures were known. I have wrote also to Moodille to try his Interest now with the Polligars, and to make what Alliances he can against those People, who are preparing again to enter his Country.

It will appear to you Gentlemen I beleive from what I have represented; that as all hopes of an accomodation are at an end, by fair means, If Usoff Cawn is

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[27th] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, DECEMR 1756.*——

recalled, the Country is certainly lost to the Honble Company. I am in some doubt indeed that if the Polygars enter heartily in the cause with Mahofoz Cawn whether the Nellour, Moodille, and all the force they can collect, are, or will think themselves strong enough, to make head against them; But that depends a good deal I hope upon Moodille's Interest in the Country, and we shall soon be informed how strong he is there.

Pardon me if what I am now going further to say, might look too like pretending to advise, or giving my opinion; when my real Intentions are no more than sitting down, and offering with Submission to your better Judgments, every thing that occurs to me in an affair, which has employed for so long a time my thoughts, & Consideration, and of which so much has been left thro' your Favors to my management, and direction.

The Circumstances of times considered, make our greatest difficulty in this Affair; and whether at this critical Juncture you may think it either proper or prudent, to make an effort, and save the Country. If that shou'd be approved of, to effect it this might be done. The same sum which was agreed to be given to pay off the Arrears of Mahofoz Cawns Cavalry, shou'd be applied at the Court of Tanjore, for a body of horse to join our Forces in the Tinnavelly Country. There might also be added to them, a European Force of 100 men from this Place, and I will have presumption enough in such case, to wish I cou'd command them; Not for the military Part that might be required, but that still having an eye to make an Accommodation, that wou'd put Mahofoz Cawn & Barkatoolah in our power. I wou'd miss no Opportunity to effect it, as it certainly wou'd be the best means to quiet the Country at once.

This proposal I own has an appearance of Temerity in it: But the Alternative, if something extraordinary is not done, urges me to it, for if our force already there, cannot make head against them, there remains but abandoning the Country, or making concession on our side, and those I fear for the whole, for not a part woud then content them.

The Division of Country made amongst these Worthies, is, Mahofoz Cawn to have Tinnavelly, & Barkatoolah Madura. Wou'd Mahofoz Cawn confine himself to the Madura District alone, and Barkatoolah content himself to be Killedar under him? We might considering the times, Agree to that, but what Security have we of their leaving the Tinnavelly Country quiet, after we have recalled our Troops; and that an Opportunity offers for attacking us with Success in those Parts.

After all this, if the necessity of the times, oblige us to recal Usoff Cawn; It remains, but the best bargain we can make with Mahofoz Cawn for an entire Concession; and if we have not some shew of Force, that still will keep him in Awe, and make him think he had best compound matters, we but too well know how little we can trust to his Promises; at least Usoff Cawn might stay untill he had given Buckangee as Security for a Yearly Sum to the Honble Company.

I have certainly stated things so far in the worst light, that I have supposed Usoff Cawn's & Moodillee's Forces alone not Sufficient to keep the Country against them. Perhaps it may prove otherwise, and by the former's good management in the military way, and the others Interest in the Country, they may maintain themselves: But certainly If we are oblig'd to recal Usoff Cawn, the Country is lost.

There is a good understanding at present between your Renter and Usoff Cawn. Jemal Saib is also, what he ought to be, before I was honored with your last letter, I had upon the first Intelligence of division between him and Moodillee, sent him orders agreable to your last directions. Moodillee hath accepted the last bills I drew on him, of one Lack, and twenty thousand Rupees for Usoff Cawn's expence, 70,000 of which are paid, the rest will be in a short time; So my apprehensions of an immediate expence on the Honble Company is at an end.

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, DECEMR 1756.*—— [27TH]

I do not hear that the Nabob has done the least thing in consequence of your representation to him, about his brother. There does not pass a letter this way from him to Madura. Tho I am told a Correspondence is carried on by another Channel, from one Hussein Mahomet Cawn formerly Duan to Mahofoz Cawn, turned out of his Post, and now he resides at Arcot. If the Nabob wished to see the troubles at an end, sure he wou'd not be so long in giving his Brother a provision: But certainly he has had a hand in raising of them. Some expressions drop'd from Mahofoz Cawn before Mr. Rumbold confirm me in this still more. He complains his Brother alone has ruin'd him, by leading him into all this, and then forsake of him.

It is time I shou'd conclude this already (perhaps) too long letter; and once more beg your Indulgence, & favorable construction of the latter part; which proceeds from a Zeal, which tho' I will always endeavor to keep in the bounds of Respect that is due from

Hoñble Sir, & Sirs,

Your most Obedient &

faithful Servant

JOHN CAILLAUD.

Trichenopoly

17th Decemr. 1756.

P.S.

The inclos'd Copy of a Letter from Mahofoz Cawn I have since writing the above receiv'd; It cannot long be undetermin'd which way they are to move, As to Mahofoz Cawns representations, they certainly will have no more effect, than as the others see it is their Interest to pursue them.

FROM MAHOFOZ CAWN TO CAPTAIN CAILLAUD.

It is impossible for me to describe to you the uneasiness, and trouble which Nabi Cawn Cotah and his Party create me. They want money. They have forced me out of the Fort, and persisted on my going into the Tinnavelly Country. This I have refused, and alledged to them that the Country belonged to the Hoñble Company, with whom I was determined to remain in Amity, I told them, to divert their bad Intentions; that as the Polygars & Colleries, had made great encroachments on the Madura Country, they might employ their Force in retaking what those People unjustly detain. I again repeat to you my promise, that nothing shall induce me to disturb the Tranquility of the Tinnavelly Country.

It being evident from the foregoing Letter, that Mahofoz Cawn with Barkatoolah, and the body of the Jemidars at Madura, are determin'd to hearken to no Proposals of Accommodation to employ Force there assembled in making a Conquest of the Tinnavelly Country, the Committee therefore take under Consideration what means can be best used, in the present Circumstances of Affairs to oppose their Designs, and secure to the Company as far as is in our power the Possession of that valuable District.

The present State of our Garrison will by no means admit of our detaching any Troops from hence, nor can Captain Caillaud's Proposal of applying to the Tanjour Court for an Assistance of a Body of Horse be prosecuted without a vast expence and Subjecting ourselves besides to the Inconvenience of a Reciprocal Application from the King for our assistance to put him in Possession of those Districts which he claims from Tondiman, or on some other Service, which might create fresh Disturbances, and raise new Enemies to the Company.

Considering indeed the different Parties and opposite Interests and Inclination which appear by Mr. Rumbold's Information to have taken place among the Subidars

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[27TH]

——*FORT ST. GEORGE, DECEMR 1756.*——

and even between Mahofoz Cawn and Barkatoolah, it seems not improbable that a small European force, join'd under Captain Caillaud's Command to the Seapoys already along with Usoff Cawn and Moodille, might Succeed in disappointing their Attempts.

But as the Face of Affairs in those Districts may have changed before our Directions can reach Captain Caillaud, It is Resolved to leave it in his Discretion to march with one hundred Military and a Suitable Train from Trichenopoly to join Usoff Cawn and Moodille and take the Command of the whole united Force at the head of which to use his endeavors either to frustrate by Arms or prevent by Accommodation the attempts of Mahofoz Cawn and all other Invaders of the Country.

Ordered that Captain Joseph Smith be left in the command of Trichenopoly during Captain Caillaud's absence, that Circular Letters be wrote to all the Pollygars of the Madura and Tinnevelly Countries to assist Captain Caillaud, that Usoff Cawn be directed to remain under his Command, and that the Renter Tetrapah Moodille be advised of our Resolutions, and ordered to Strengthen himself by Forming new alliances and enlisting more Troops.

Letter from Messrs. Lawrence & Wynch read as follows.

To the Honble George Pigot Esqr.
President & Governor, &ca. Gentlemen of the Select Committee.

Gentlemen

We are favoured with your Letter of the 16th December.

We have directed the Ingenier As soon as he can spare Workmen to begin upon repairing the Dutch Residents House, & to take Care that the Expence thereof does not Exceed the Calculate. We are Obliged to take this Method not being able to get any Person that will Contract for Jobbs of this kind.

Ensign Donnavan has been Acquainted that he has leave to resign his Commission. Ten Pipes of Madeira Wine will be wanted, Several of the Gentlemen not having recevd their Quota, nor the Docter for the Use of the Sick in the Hospital.

Most of the Seapoys mentioned in Your Letter of the 10th Inst are Arrived to whom we have paid the Customary Batta for the time they were on the Road, the Adjutant having wrote here that they did not receive it at Your Place.

We now forward You a Plan of the old Dutch Factory, a Copy of which is Also kept here.

This Morning we were at the Powder House and have Directed the Mud Battery that was Erected for the Defence of it to be remade, which will be done for a Small Expence, & may be of much Service [as it was] when the Merattas infested these [Bounds.]

The Person [that the Ellavanasore] Killedar mentioned to Coll. Lawrence [came in this] Day, & delivered the Accompanying [Letter. He has not] yet talked to Us, but shall [* send for him to Morrow & will then let you know what he has to say. We purpose returning him with a Civil Answer that we shall Allways Esteem his Friendship, that we thankd him for the Advice he Gave Us, but as we are so near Pondicherry we are fully well Acquainted with what is doing there, & no ways apprehensive even should they have the Force he mentions.

We are wth Respect Gentlemen
Your Most Humble & Obedt. Servants

Stringer Lawrence.

Alexr. Wynch.]

[The proposals of the Kiledar of] Ellavanasore being read are found to contain [an offer to raise a] Body of Troops to be paid by the Company [with which he is]

* (Original page torn. The bracketed portions have been filled in from the original papers in this office.)

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——*FORT ST. GEORGE, DECEMR. 1756.*—— [27TH]

to invest the French Districts. The Committee [think it] by no means for the Company's Interest [to engage in] such a Scheme, and therefore approve the [answer Messrs. Lawrence & Wynch] purpos'd to send him [in friendly but] indefinitive Terms.

Letter from the [Nabob read as] entered No. 382 in the Book of Country Correspondence, advising that the Killedar of Polour attack'd the Chette[put Forces and drove] them out of the Pettah, or Suburbs, and Captain [Preston]* writes from Arcot, that as Polur has been [reinforc'd] by a Relation of the Killedars; there seems no [Danger] of its being taken.

GEORGE [PIGOT.]
HENRY [POWNEY.]
ROBERT [ORME.]
[WILLM PERCEVAL.
[ROBT PALK.]

Sent the following Letters to Messrs. Lawrence & Wynch & Captain John Caillaud, pursuant to Resolutions of last Committee.

To STRINGER LAWRENCE & ALEXR. WYNCH ESQRS.

Gentlemen

We have receiv'd your Letter of the 22d December, the answer you purpos'd to return to the Killedar of Ellavansore is very proper, as his Schemes are such as can by no means be engag'd in.

We approve of your Setting about the Repairs which you think necessary at the Powder house Battery and we doubt not you will See them executed with as little Expence as possible.

We are Gentlemen

Your most Obedient Servants

GEORGE PIGOT &CA COMMITTEE.

Fort St. George
28th Decemr 1756.

(No. 50)

To CAPTAIN JOHN CAILLAUD.

Sir

We have receiv'd your Letter dated the 17th of this month.

From the circumstantial account therein contain'd of the Treatment Mr. Rumbold receiv'd at Madura of the Profess'd Resolution of the Jemidars to attempt Conquests, and of Mahofoz Cawns little Ability, whatever [may be] his Desire, we see plainly that the Company's [Possession] of the Tinnevelly Country will depend on [the Opposition] that can be made against the Efforts of [those Invaders.]

We are Sensible that a Party of Tanjour Horse join'd to you, if they wou'd act with Spirit, and conform to your Orders, wou'd be very useful, but the expence of those Troops is immense, and the King wou'd besides undoubtedly insist on some Conditions to be Stipulated for his advantage, such as our assisting in taking Countries from Tondiman or some other Expedition which might create fresh Disturbance. To avoid these Inconveniences, as well as the Expence, we are desirous of proceeding if possible without the assistance of Tanjour Troops, and when we consider the Divisions and Seperate Interests of Mahofoz Cawn Barkatoolah and the several Jemidars, we are not without hopes that one hundred men with a Suitable Train join'd under your Command to Usoff Cawn and Moodille might be able to disappoint their Schemes. But as Circumstances may have changed since the date of your letter or before the arrival of this, you will be the best Judge.

If you think that with the Force beforemention'd you shall be able to make such an Oppos[ition] as will be for the Company's Interest, and get Mahofoz C[awn] and Barkatoolah into your Power, or free the Country from them; Then you will

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[28TH.] ——*FORT ST. GEORGE, DECEMR. 1756.*——

march as soon as you con[venient]ly can, and endeavor to accomplish our ends either by [Force] or accommodation according to your Judgment of [the] Abilities of the Force under your Command, and the ge[neral] Situation in which you may find Affairs.

Inclos'd are twenty circu[lar Letters] Seal'd with the Presidents Chop, of the Tenor of the inclos'd Translation. They are in Blank covers that you may direct them to such Poligars as you may have occasion to call upon. Inclos'd are likewise Letters to Usoff Cawn & Moodillee with Copies for your Perusal.

We recommend to your particular Attention the preventing Mahofoz Cawn's People from collecting the Grain off the Ground or receiving Revenues in any other manner. If they can be disappointed of gathering in money we shou'd think their own Distresses wou'd soon disperse them.

It will be necessary that you give orders to Captain Smith, with whom you will entrust the Command of Trichenopoly to be particularly vigilant & cautious during your absence.

We are Satisfy'd that no Zeal or Vigilance will be wanting on your Part towards the Speedy conclusion of these troubles, and wishing you Success

We are Sir,
Your most Obedient Servants

GEORGE PIGOT—HENRY POWNEY—ROBERT ORMR—WILLIAM PERCEVAL—ROBERT PALK.

Fort St. George
28th December 1756.

AT A COMMITTEE

Present

THURSDAY THE 30TH. GEORGE PIGOT ESQR. GOVERNOR PRESIDENT
HENRY POWNEY ROBERT ORME
WILLIAM PERCEVAL ROBERT PALK.

No fresh Letters or advices having been receiv'd Since last meeting, the Committee adjourns untill Monday next.

GEORGE PIGOT.
HENRY POWNEY.
ROBERT ORME.
WILLM PERCEVAL.
ROBT PALK.

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and
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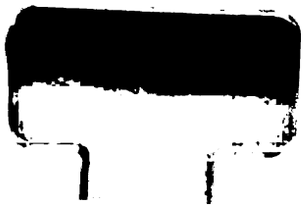

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